www.saipantribune.com 50¢ Volume XXI, Issue No. 201 THURSDAY AUGUST 25, 2011



OPINION METER

This week's poll:

Do you support a plan for the CNMI government to go back to the federal Social Security program for its pension program?

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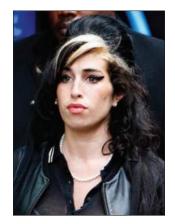
INSIDE



Gadhafi Missing

Hundreds of Libyan rebels storm Moammar Gadhafi's compound but finds no sign of the man.

WORLD...Page 16



No Drugs

Amy Winehouse had no illegal drugs in her system when she died, and it is still unclear what killed the

LIFE & STYLE...Page 20

Ex-cop in 'ice' distribution case gets 2 years in prison. PAGE 2 Tax increases eyed on individual, business gross revenues. PAGE 3

Retirees troubled by Fund's status

By MONETH G. DEPOSA moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com REPORTER

etirees are feeling a sense of panic upon learning Tuesday that the CNMI's pension program would only last three years if no drastic action is taken to save it.

Many of the 30 retirees who attended Tuesday night's meeting at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center blamed the NMI Retirement Fund's sagging fortunes on the government, the Legislature, and the Fund's management for not giving the pension program the priority and attention it needs.

The more than two-hour presentation also took up specific laws and legislation that gave retirees and

See RETIREES on Page 4

Saipan casino vote may not be smooth sailing

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com REPORTER

On the eve of the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation's long-awaited vote on a controversial bill legalizing casino gambling

on Saipan, members foresee some behind-the-scene drama that could make it tougher to pass the bill than originally anticipated.

For one, not all members of the House leadership are vot-

See CASINO on Page 4





BLAME IT ON THE RAIN

Tree trunks are knocked down by the strong rain and winds, slightly clogging traffic on Capital Hill yesterday afternoon. Emergency Management Office director Joaquin Omar, right, and Department of Public Works personnel immediately responded to the scene to remove the fallen tree trunks and direct traffic.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

NMC suspends **Education Talent** Search Program

By MONETH G. DEPOSA

The Northern Marianas College will stop offering the federally funded Educational Talent Search Program after its application didn't make it to the final selection of the U.S. Department of Education.

Leo Pangelinan, NMC's dean of Student Services, confirmed yesterday the

See NMC on Page 4

IN LATEST DRAFT OF BUDGET BILL

No salary hike for lawmakers, 16-hour cut in first quarter



haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com

House Ways and Means Committee chair Rep. Ray Basa (Cov-Saipan) and

other lawmakers said yesterday that the are constitutionally protected so there's no bill does not increase lawmakers' consti-

chair eyes lastminute changes to measure

>>> Ways and Means tutionally protected salary of \$39,300 annually, contrary to a report published in the other newspaper yesterday.

"Lawmakers" salaries

latest draft of the fiscal year 2012 budget way we can change our salaries—whether

See NO SALARY on Page 4

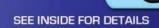
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Local

Ex-cop in 'ice' distribution case gets 24 months in prison

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com

The federal court imposed yesterday a 24-month prison sentence on Florencio Q. Richards, a former police officer who was convicted of conspiring to distribute "ice" while he was still an active officer.

U.S. District Court for the NMI visiting judge Mark W. Bennett said it is his judgment that Richards must spend 24 months in prison, considering that he was a police officer when he committed the crimes.

On the other hand, Bennett said, there are other mitigating factors—Richards has good family support, has children, he cooperated with investigators, is doing well in his drug rehabilitation, is remorseful, and has taken responsibility and is not blaming anybody else for his crimes.

The 24-month sentence is the low end of the sentencing guidelines.



Before the sentence was handed down, Richards told the court that he deeply regrets his actions. He apologized to his family and the community for

"betraying their trust and confidence in him."

"I found that I'm not alone with this trouble—my addiction to drugs and alcohol,"

Richards said. "I want to stand on my two feet again and support my family."

He vowed to continue to serve the community not as a

police officer but as a productive member of society.

Richards was given credit for the 114 days he had already spent in jail. After completing his sentence, he will be placed on three years of supervised released. Bennett allowed Richards to remain out on bail until a federal detention facility is designated for him.

The indictment charged Richards with drug conspiracy, distribution of a controlled substance, carrying a firearm during and in relation to a drug trafficking crime, and possession of a firearm by a prohibited person.

He pleaded guilty in February to conspiracy to distribute, distribution of "ice," and possession of a firearm by a prohibited person as part of a plea deal. In return, the charge of carrying a firearm during and in relation to a drug trafficking crime, which carries a mandatory jail time of five years, was dropped.

Assistant U.S. attorney James

Benedetto had recommended the lowest end of the sentencing guidelines—24 months—citing Richards' cooperation with investigators, acceptance of responsibility, and the fact that he is doing well in his supervised release.

Richards' lawyer, Michael Evangelista, later said that they appreciate Bennett's handling of the sentencing hearing.

"We also appreciate the government's position of sticking to the general terms of the plea agreement that we have negotiated together. And we also appreciate the work of the Probation Office," Evangelista said.

Evangelista said that Bennett did "an awesome job" in going through all the factors—both mitigating and enhancement.

"I think the judge took note of the many mitigating factors with regards to my client. [Richards] took responsibility from the very beginning. He abided by all the conditions of his pretrial release. He attended all counseling sessions. He is truly a remorseful man. He realized that what he had done was wrong. He took responsibility for that. He did not try to blame somebody," the lawyer said.

Preliminary results of whale necropsy to be presented Friday at AMP

By CLARISSA V. DAVID

clarissa_david@saipantribune.com REPORTER

Two of the top experts in the region on marine strandings will be on island today to do a necropsy on the beached whale found at Micro Beach on Tuesday.

Dr. Kristie West, a cetacean scientist and professor at the Hawaii Pacific University, and David Schofield, regional stranding response coordinator for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, were scheduled to arrive last night, according to Ken Kramer, acting president of the Asia Pacific Academy of Science, Education and Environmental Management.

Preliminary results of the necropsy, as well as general information about marine strandings, will be discussed in a presentation tomorrow, Friday, at 6:30pm at the American Memorial Park Visitors Center.

APASEEM, a nonprofit, nongovernmental organization, will host the presentation—its 71st presentation so far, Kramer said.

The beached whale was put down at past 3pm on Tuesday, several hours after it was found. Another whale, a dead one, was found Monday on the back reef area outside Oleai Beach Bar & Grill.

Kramer said only Schofield will speak at the APASEEM presentation.



Tax increases eyed on individual and business gross revenues

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com

A new proposal to increase individual and business gross rev-

enue taxes by 0.3 percent to 1 percent, which a lawmaker says would have a "small" impact on the economy, is drawing opposi-

Senate president opposes merger of Rota's junior high, high schools

Manglona

By MONETH G. DEPOSA moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Senate President Paul A. Manglona (Ind-Rota) expressed opposition yesterday to a proposal that will merge the junior high and high school on Rota, citing potential unconstructive effects it may have on the is-

land's students. In a letter to Education Commissioner Rita A. Sablan yesterday, Manglona said the plan may jeopardize the safety and quality of learning for students as different groups of enrollees will be combined in

one campus.

"Concerns have been raised in regards to the bus accommodations for the high school students, particularly those enrolled in the JROTC program, physical education classes, and other computer services offered by the senior high school. Another concern is the number of bullying cases reported and the likelihood of middle school students being bullied," said Manglona in his letter to Sablan.

He also cited as a concern the increasing number of teen pregnancies. Manglona said he is certain that parents, community leaders, and educators would not encourage a 7th grader, who has yet to mature, to be in the same area as a 12th grader, who

tion from CNMI businesses that

is considered a young adult.

"This troublesome idea seems to encourage quick-maturity and promiscuity, especially since I have not seen or heard of a program on Rota to battle these types of situations," the lawmaker said, adding that he is also worried that there is not enough time to merge the two

schools this year. Manglona said he is unaware of any practical planning and organization relating to the merger. He pointed out that such planning requires at least a year before actual enforcement.

The Public School System is eyeing the merger of the two schools to maximize its limited resources. The proposal is in today's Board of Education meeting agenda.

If there is a need to merge public schools, Manglona recommended that PSS combine the elementary and junior high school in one campus—but not junior and high schools. He cited some public schools in the United States that have implemented such a merger.

"Merging the Rota elementary and junior high schools is a better solution for cost-cutting measures, with at least one year of preparation," he said.

He urged PSS and the board to consult with parents and community leaders on Rota before Chamber of Commerce.

Items covered by the bill include the gross revenue tax imposed on every person, tax imposed on businesses engaged in agricultural produce and fishing, taxes on manufacturers and wholesalers, and taxes on banks, banking institutions, building and loan associations and other financial institutions.

Rep. Stanley Torres (Ind-Saipan), author of House Bill 17-212, which is expected to be introduced during a session planned for Friday, described his proposed gross revenue tax hike as having a "small" impact on the economy.

"For example, an increase in the maximum tax on gross revenue from 5 percent to 6 percent, if passed through to the ultimate consumer, would increase a \$100 purchase to about \$101," he said.

But an accountant in one of the most established businesses in the CNMI, for example, said a 1 percent increase in gross revenue tax would mean an additional \$10,000 in yearly tax payments at a time when the economy is businesses are

Under the bill, these tax hikes should take effect on Oct. 1, 2011.

Richard Pierce, executive director of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce, said the business group is "absolutely, positively and without a doubt" opposed to "this attempt to generate revenue for government funding at the further expense of businesses and individual CNMI income taxpayers."

"The Chamber is looking for ways to reduce the cost of living and doing business in the CNMI, not increase it. SCC will submit formal comments

include the 150-member Saipan as soon as possible," he told Saipan Tribune.

Torres said the government has already initiated programs to cut expenditures, including a 20-percent cut in the majority of the Executive Branch but he said the burden of adjusting to current levels of available resources should be shared by all members of the economy "and not placed on only one group."

Torres is also the author of a controversial Saipan casino gambling legalization bill and the medical marijuana bill, among other measures.

Under his HB 17-212, the gross revenue tax for those earning between \$5,001 and \$50,000 a year will be increased from 1.5 percent to 1.8 percent.

Those earning between \$50,001 and \$100,000 will be taxed 2.4 percent instead of the current 2 percent.

Those with earnings of between \$100,001 and \$250,000 will be taxed 3 percent instead of 2.5 percent.

The proposal also calls for

3.6 percent in tax for those earning between \$250,001 and \$500,000.

From 4 percent, the tax will increase to 4.8 percent for those earning between \$500,001 and \$750,000

Those earning \$750,001 and above will also be taxed 6 percent instead of the current 5 percent under Torres' bill.

HB 17-212 says the tax imposed on persons engaged in the business of producing agricultural products or fishing in the CNMI or its waters for dietary consumption will be taxed 1.2 percent instead of 1 percent if their yearly total gross revenue is over \$20,000.

The taxes imposed on manufacturers and wholesalers

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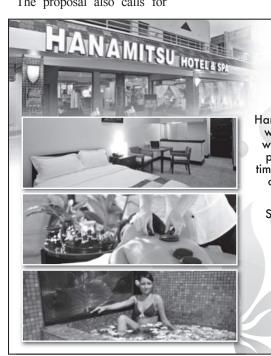
an increase from 3 percent to will also be increased from 1.5 percent to 1.8 percent, of their annual gross revenue is \$5,001 to \$50,000.

Those manufacturers and wholesalers earning \$50,001 or more will also see an increase in tax from 2 percent to 2.4 percent under the bill

Taxes imposed on persons operating a bank, banking institution, building and loan association, or other financial institution shall be the greater of 6 percent instead of the current 5 percent of the net income earned by such institutions, or 3.6 percent instead of the current 3 percent of the total gross revenue of such institutions.

Lawmakers have tried but so far failed to increase taxes or impose new taxes in recent years.







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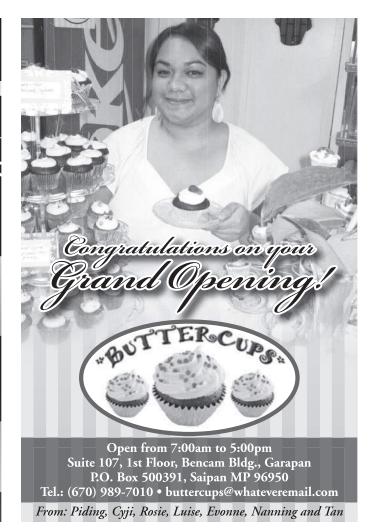
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Dentist awarded \$130K; found liable to pay ex-employer \$62K

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE

A federal jury awarded yesterday Dr. Masha Maxim \$130,000 for damages in her lawsuit against Dental Care and its owners for breach of contract over her termination, but found her liable to pay \$62,000 in damages for slapping one of her former employers.

In the end, after the court offsets the awards, Dr. Maxim, a Canadian dentist, will get a net award of \$68,00. Both parties expressed themselves satisfied with the verdict.

After deliberating for almost two days, the eight jurors found Dental Care Corp. and its owners, Rodney Steward and Scott Thompson, liable to Maxim for breach of contract and discharge in violation of public policy.

The jury awarded Maxim \$30,000 in

compensatory damages for lost income and benefits and \$100,000 in punitive damages, for a total of \$130,000.

Attorney Stephen Nutting, counsel for Maxim, told the media after the sentencing that they are very happy with half of the verdict.

Nutting said he believes that the verdict on the assault claim was a little

Nutting, however, stated that the jurors were very attentive throughout the trial. "I was very impressed with the hard work that they did on this," he said. "We're really happy. We're really satisfied with the outcome of

Nutting said he is very proud of Dr. Maxim, considering that he discouraged her from going to trial. "She kept saying she needs to do the right thing. Essentially she made me try this case over my objection. But she wanted to make sure truth and justice prevail. And I think that's really what happened here," he said.

Attorney Michael Dotts, counsel for Dental Care and Steward, told the media that this is a split decision as basically the jury awarded both sides.

"So in our side we are very pleased and justice prevailed. And we got punitive damages against the dentist for striking her employer. That's fairly significant," Dotts said.

Dotts said the jurors used their wisdom and both sides won and both sides lost. "I guess the good news is and this is really what trials are for: This ends the controversy. These people are very upset with each other. And this has been going on for more than a year. And now finally have a closure," he said.

Tropical disturbance brings heavy rain to the Marianas region

A tropical disturbance that is expected to intensify into a tropical depression brought heavy rains in the CNMI and Guam yesterday and the rain and gusty winds may continue until today, Thursday.

According to the National Weather Service in Guam, the tropical disturbance is not expected to track over the Mariana Islands, but it is expected to produce some periods of heavy rain, gusty winds, rough seas and high surf for Saipan, Tinian, Rota, and Guam.

"Periods of heavy rain will continue today [Wednesday] and last off-and-on through Thursday," NWS said.

As the disturbance is still in the initial stages of formation, NWS said that Marianas residents should monitor the system through today, Thursday.

A high surf advisory remains in effect until 5pm today, Thursday.

"Avoid venturing near exposed reefs and beaches especially those along south and west facing reefs as rip currents are life threatening," NWS advised residents. (Ferdie dela Torre)

CASINO

From Page 1

ing "yes" on the bill because many, as of yesterday, were either leaning toward "no" or still undecided.

Second, the delegation's floor leader, Sen. Pete Reyes (R-Saipan), will not be attending the session, said acting delegation chair Rep. Joseph Palacios (R-Saipan).

Palacios said that Reyes informed him about his absence as early as Monday.

Other leadership members alleged that absences or abstentions from today's session are the result of delegation chair Rep. Ray Tebuteb's efforts before going off-island to persuade other members to derail the voting pro-

The acting delegation chair appointed House floor leader George Camacho (Ind-Saipan) as acting floor leader in today's delegation session.

Tebuteb (R-Saipan) had asked the House leadership to hold off holding a session at least until after his return from Korea on Aug. 30.

Some leadership members believe Tebuteb will not be back by Tuesday, and that he had reserved the House chamber for a Sept. 8 delegation ses-

But Rep. Ray Palacios (Cov-Saipan) asked, "What's the big deal in extending the courtesy by granting the chairman his request and wait for his re-

'We are all elected to help our struggling economy and one way to do so is by respecting each other and working together, regardless if we see things differently. Let's focus on rebuilding our economy, which is hurting us all. One thing is for certain. The chairman [Tebuteb] made it clear that he does support casino; it's the implementation process that we all differ," he said.

Tebuteb, just like other senators and other House members, want the casino issue to be presented to voters in the next election.

Rep. Stanley Torres (Ind-Saipan), author of the casino bill, said his bill will pass today. Torres said the vote

could be 9-5-2 in favor of the bill, and the "2" could be abstention.

"The 'yes' votes could also be eight or 10," he said.

The Saipan delegation has 21 members-18 from the House and three from the Senate. With Tebuteb and Reyes' anticipated absence, today's session could only have 19 members. Only a simple majority is needed to pass the casino bill.

Rep. Joseph Palacios said he wants the delegation to start at 1:30pm as an-

"I would be reminding members to remember their promise to the people when they took their oath of officethat they promised to look at ways to generate revenue for the CNMI people, and casino is among those revenuegenerating measures," he said, adding that poker machines are worse than casinos, which will be limited to only four and only in certain areas.

The acting delegation chair hopes there will be a last-minute change of heart among members who are leaning toward voting "no."

its current situation.

According to Alepuyo, retirees, particularly members of the Commonwealth Retirees Association, have been invited many times to meetings at the Legislature and the Office of the Governor but only a few showed serious

The Fund estimates that there are more than 3,000 retirees in the Commonwealth. However, only a few seem to be interested about the pension pro-

After being presented with the facts and the gravity of the situation, many retirees expressed willingness to "sacrifice" and "act together" to ensure the

mation they obtained to fellow retirees and convince then to take part in the issue. Many admitted being unaware of the many bills and laws passed by the Legislature that contributed to the near collapse of the program.

Maxim sued the defendants for terminating her and for allegedly failing to make good of their promises. She demanded \$386,000 in her lawsuit for lost wages and damages.

Thompson filed a counterclaim against Maxim for allegedly slapping him in the clinic. He demanded \$80,000 from the dentist for lost income and damages.

NMC

From Page 1

closure of the program beginning this

The Educational Talent Search Program assists individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds who have the potential to succeed in higher education. It provides academic, career, and financial counseling to participants and encourages them to graduate from high school and go on to college.

Pangelinan said the grant application process for ETS funding was very competitive, with the U.S. Department of Education receiving 968 applications from all 50 states and insular areas.

"It's unfortunate that NMC's grant application in addition to over 500 other applicants from throughout the U.S. were not selected in this award cycle. The program has been highly instrumental in helping our students with financially-disadvantaged backgrounds receive additional support services like tutoring and counseling services," he told Saipan Tribune.

He said that NMC will reapply for the ETS program in the next funding

In August last year, the U.S. Education Department did not pick Student Support Services for funding, forcing the college to also stop the program. That program aims to increase the col-

lege retention and graduation rates of participants and facilitate the process of transition from one level of higher education to the next. It serves 180 students at NMC per year. A special audit in early 2010 uncovered misuse of SSS funds at NMC, among other deficiencies in 2008 and 2009.

With the two programs' closure, this leaves Upward Bound as the only program under TRiO, a federal program designed to serve and assist lowincome individuals, first-generation college students, and individuals with disabilities to progress through the academic pipeline from middle school to college.

Nonetheless, Pangelinan said, they want to reassure students that NMC will continue to provide similar critical services through other channels.

He added that students will also continue to receive one-on-one academic assistance from their advisers. "In any case, we are committed to minimizing any service disruption to the program participants so they can continue to focus on their studies," Pangelinan said.

"The college will continue to offer other federally funded student support programs, including the Upward Bound Program and the College Access Challenge Grant Program, which provide scholarship and services like tutoring, counseling, and other activities to help students enroll and succeed in college," the NMC statement added.

NO SALARY

From Page 1

increase or decrease without a change in the Constitution," Basa told Saipan Tribune.

The CNMI Constitution gives an annual salary of \$39,300 for all members of the Legislature—House and Senate.

While the salaries remain the same, Basa said the benefits have increased, mainly because of increased contribution to the NMI Retirement Fund and the increase is not something that goes to lawmakers' pockets.

Draft 4 of the budget bill shows that the 20 House members' salaries total \$986,037, but this is inclusive of the \$39,000 in annual salary of each member and the retirement and other benefits.

The draft bill's total salary and retirement contribution, along with other benefits, is more than the fiscal year 2011 budget law's \$954,597 and Basa said this is because of the Ways and Means' decision to heed the Retirement Fund's request to increase employer contribution to the pension system, among other things.

The same is true for the Senate members' salaries and benefits.

Rep. Edmund Villagomez (Cov-Saipan) said he will seek clarification on the matter during today's leadership meeting, and would suggest that the lawmakers' constitutionally-mandated salaries be separated from the retirement contributions and other benefits in making budget bills, so as not to confuse the public.

Basa said he plans to pre-file the budget bill today and expects that there might be floor amendments to it during a session planned for Friday.

His bill also retains the biweekly 16-hour work cuts but at least for the

first quarter of 2012 or from October to December. If not enough additional resources are identified in the first quarter, the 16-hour work cut will continue in the following quarters.

The draft bill also requires unpaid government holidays.

Rep. Joseph Palacios (R-Saipan) said he would like to propose that holiday pays be restored. "It's bad enough that employees have 16 hours cut, so I am suggesting we restore holiday pay,"

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial's proposed \$102 million budget for 2012 gives the Senate and House leadership accounts \$300,000 each, but Basa's committee pared this down to \$138,000 for the House and \$110,396 for the Senate in the fourth and latest draft of the bill.

Prior to this latest bill, the leadership account was at \$300,000, much higher than the 2011 appropriation of \$138,000.

Each House member's allocation or operational account has been reduced from \$85,000 under PL 17-21 to \$51,575 in the latest 2012 budget

Each senator's annual allocation will also be \$51,575 in the draft 2012 bill, also a drop from \$85,000 in the 2011 budget law.

The latest draft also shows that the government will lower its utility payments from \$7.5 million in 2011 to only \$4.75 million in 2012.

The draft bill also bans hiring of new employees, except for critical and emergency positions, as long as work hours and wages are reduced.

The administration has lowered the budget of \$102 million because it anticipates that the Department of Public Health will already be turned into a corporation by the start of fiscal year 2012 on Oct. 1.

RETIREES

From Page 1

members "too generous and unrealistic" benefits, while the Fund management was also scored for excessive expenditures for operations.

Wilshire Associates principal Maggie Ralbovsky, who gave a presentation about the Fund's status, said the program only has a lifespan of three years based on its current financial condition. Restructuring or cutting the pension benefits of members by 50 percent and increasing government remittances each year are immediate ways, for now, to extend that three-year lifespan, she said.

In order to keep the pension plan afloat for the next 10 years, the government would need to put in \$58 million in employer contribution each year in the next 10 years, she added.

According to Ralbovsky, the NMI pension plan is far behind the status of other pension funds in other states and jurisdictions because of the lack of strong support from its sponsor the government. Besides the over \$231 million court judgment in June 2009, the government continues to be delinquent in its employer contributions for many months.

Due to its cash-flow problem, the Fund has been withdrawing some \$70 million yearly from its investment portfolio for pension payouts and other obligation, causing its rapid depletion. As of last month, the Fund's portfolio was valued at \$305 million.

Fund legal counsel Viola Alepuyo pleaded with members and retirees to help save their program.

"I beg you, we need your help. Your voices are strong. Go up and convince the Legislature to help save the Fund. For many years, the Retirement Fund has been screaming for help...please scream with us," Alepuyo told retirees after explaining how the Fund got into

perpetuity of the pension program. They promised to pass on the infor-

Anti-theft, asset identification system now on Saipan

By CLARISSA V. DAVID clarissa_david@saipantribune.com REPORTER

DataDot Technology Ltd., an Australian company that has developed theft deterrent and asset identification technologies in the last 16 years, introduced Saipan yesterday to a product that revolutionizes assets security and prevents thefts.

DataDotDNA, a security identification system that protects valuable assets from being stolen, is now available on island through its exclusive distributor, Delta Management.

DataDots is a state-of-theart identification and anti-theft security system. It consists of polyester substrate microdots about the size of a grain of sand, on which unique information is laser etched.

Each kit manufactured by DataDot contains its own unique code for a given asset, from laptops and SLR cameras to houses and cars. It may be registered on a secure national database for law enforcement access should the asset gets lost or be stolen. Information stored on DataDots can be customized.

Due to its size, DataDots are virtually invisible to the naked eye but can be revealed with the use of a UV light or a magnifying lens. However, they are almost impossible to be removed, making them an effective means for preventing theft and vital for the recovery and return of stolen assets.

Greg Gothard, DataDot Technology Ltd. general manager for business development, said that DataDots have been used extensively in the United States, Canada, and other countries and now they're introducing it in Micronesia.

"We're really excited," said average citizen to protect their Gothard, adding that DataDots asset at reasonable cost, it's a

will be launched in Guam today.

Gothard disclosed that the company was originally started by an insurance broker who was getting annoyed by the fact that he's getting claims for valuables that had been recovered by the police but could not be returned.

"A number of insurance companies around the world recognize the benefit of this [DataDots] because it's about deterrence and recovery," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

Gothard said they have different types of DataDot kits applicable to "anything that's yours that's of any value." Prices vary for these kits. Applying DataDots for a house, for example, would cost under \$100.

He noted that the price is a one-time cost. "Once you've done it, you've done it for life," added Gothard.

According to Gothard, police enforcers from various countries have had considerable number of convictions and recovery cases thanks to DataDots.

Jim Arenovski, president of Delta Management, said that DataDots serve as another tool for law enforcement to help return stolen items to their rightful owners.

"The opportunity for getting your product back has increased hundreds percent. It's just a huge increase in getting your product back. That's what we all want," he said.

Arenovski added that Data-Dot's collaboration with Crime Stoppers International reinforces not just the level of credibility and integrity of the brand but also of the organization.

"Once people understand it's a crime prevention tool, not just for law enforcement but for the average citizen to protect their asset at reasonable cost, it's a

Man in fraudulent driver's license case is found guilty

A federal jury found a Chinese national guilty yesterday of fraudulently obtaining a CNMI driver's license.

After deliberating for less than an hour, the jurors came out with the verdict finding Wei Lin guilty of two counts of document fraud and one count of making a false statement to a federal agent.

U.S. District Court for the NMI visiting judge Mark Bennett said he will issue a written order that will expedite Lin's sentencing.

Attorneys Joseph James Norita Camacho and Michael Evangelista, counsel for Lin, told *Saipan Tribune* that Lin has been in custody for five months now and the federal sentencing guidelines score these offenses at 0 to 6 months in jail, hence the need to expedite Lin's sentencing. They said they will meet with their client and prepare for the sentencing.

Assistant U.S. attorney Kirk

Schuler prosecuted the case. He presented five witnesses.

According to the indictment, Lin paid \$350 to a third party to illegally obtain a driver's license without meeting the requirements under CNMI law.

Lin had presented the Bureau of Motor Vehicles with an affidavit falsely stating that he had lost his previous driver's license, when he knew that his license had been confiscated by a police officer.

On April 2, 2011, Schuler said, Lin told DHS special agent Isra Harahap that he did not have any identification documents, and that his driver's license had been taken by a U.S. immigration agent in the parking lot of a poker establishment in San Jose. Schuler said the statements were false because as Lin knew, he was in actual possession of a duplicate CNMI driver's license that he had fraudulently procured. (Ferdie de la Torre)



good show. At Crime Stoppers, we always want to be able to partner with people that are in the crime prevention business and this is one of the few we found that would work out here in the NMI and in Guam," he said.

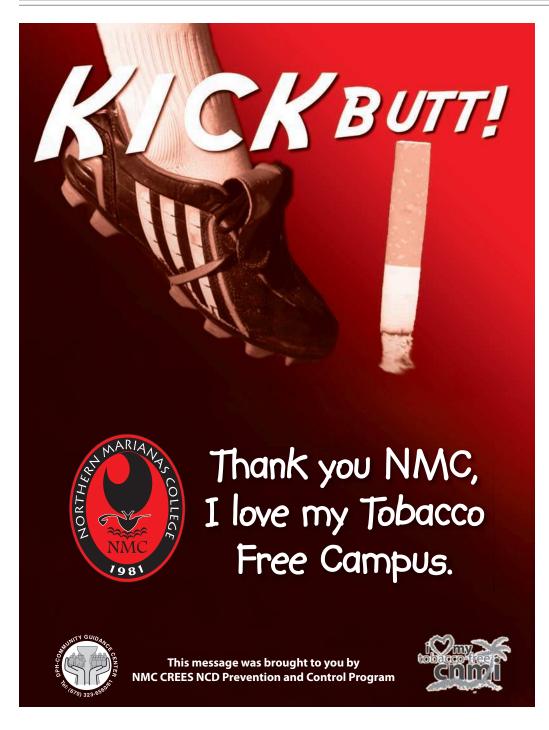
For more information, call 235-1668, 287-7037, email deltamgt@pticom.com or visit www.datadotmicronesia.com.

 \triangleleft

CLARISSA V. DAVID

DataDot Technology Ltd. Business Development general manager Greg Gothard, right, shakes hands with Delta Management president Jim T. Arenovski during the launching of DataDots, a state-of-the-art identification and anti-theft security system, yesterday at the 360 Revolving Restaurant.







Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of the Executive Director



INVITATION FOR BIDS CUC-IFB-11-053 SUPPLY & DELIVERY OF POWER DISTRIBUTION MATERIALS

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Supply and Delivery of Power Distribution Materials for the Talafofo Overhead Power Line Extension Project, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The Bid Package may be obtained, upon receipt of a non-refundable payment from the CUC Treasury Section, by cash or check, in the amount of \$100.00 for one set; at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

One (1) original and Five (5) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-IFB-11-053, Supply & Delivery of Power Distribution Materials", to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than 10:00 AM, (ChST) on September 20, 2011 at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. A copy of the entire submission is also required to be sent by email to Janina Muna, Procurement & Supply Administrative Assistant via email address mika_muna@cucgov.net or alternately include a CD with each copy of the submission. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered

A Bid Guarantee of 15 percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. A Payment and Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. Surety company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC.

All insurers questions, concerns and qualification be should handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid or supply under

The IFB does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the bid under this

Bidders will also be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract

shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) local time on September

2, 2011 to Mr. Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email - msablan@cucgov.net with a copy to Mr Alfredo Palattao, Power Division Engineer via email alfredo_palattao@cucgov.net and Ms. Janina Mika Muna, Admin. Support Assistant, Procurement & Supply - mika muna@cucgov.net.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

> ABE UTU MALAE **Executive Director**

OIA seen to support scrapping ILS project

>> Redirection of funds awaits federal approval

By MONETH G. DEPOSA

Although it has yet to respond formally to Tinian lawmakers' cancellation of the island's instrument landing system project, the Office of Insular Affairs is expected to support the decision, according to federal CIP coordinator Keith Aughenbaugh.

"As far as cancellation of ILS project, we're satisfied with the decision because of modern [navigational] technologies," Aughenbaugh told Saipan Tribune yesterday, adding that some Chinese airlines have affirmed having these new technologies and attesting that they can safely land at the Tinian airport without the aid of an ILS.

An instrument landing system, or ILS, is a ground-based instrument approach system that provides precision guidance to an aircraft landing on a runway using a combination of radio signals and high-intensity lighting arrays to enable safe landings in times of reduced visibility due to fog, rain, or blowing snow.

Tinian lawmakers have been pushing for an ILS since 2005 to lure large aircraft to directly fly to the island. The project got an initial \$3.5 million funding from the OIA after the Federal Aviation Administration declined to fund the project.

The Tinian delegation, however, decided in July to scrap the project and sent a letter to

Man in trafficking and possession of 3 grams of 'ice' gets 5 years in prison

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Superior Court associate judge David A. Wiseman imposed vesterday a five-year prison term on a 41-year-old man convicted of trafficking of a controlled substance and illegal possession of controlled substance.

Wiseman said the 25-year mandatory sentence does not serve the end of justice in the case of Jing Xin Xiao, who he said has no criminal record and was convicted of trafficking just 3 grams of "ice".

Wiseman noted that the fiveyear sentence without parole equals a 15-year sentence and that is not by any standard a lenient sentence.

Xiao was fined \$10,000 for the crime of trafficking of a controlled substance. For the crime of illegal possession of a controlled substance, Xiao was sentenced to the maximum of five years to be served without parole or suspension and a fine of \$5,000, with credit for time served.

"In imposing this sentence, the court acknowledged the witness' testimony and the arguments of counsel that the mandatory sentences recently imposed on drug trafficking have had an effect on reducing drug activity in the community,'

Manglona's investiture ceremony on Saturday

The public judicial investiture ceremony for newly commissioned U.S. District Court Judge Ramona Villagomez Manglona will be held on Saturday, Aug. 27, 2011, at 10am at the U.S. District Court in Garapan, Saipan.

Circuit Judge Mary Schroeder of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit will deliver the kevnote address and will swear in Manglona.

Other federal judges from Ninth Circuit courts and judges from the CNMI, Guam, and Mi-

Xiao was remanded to the Department of Corrections. His release date is April 7, 2015 at 4:49pm.

Notwithstanding his disdain for mandatory sentences, Wiseman stressed that he has not and will not hesitate to impose the mandatory 25-year sentence without parole for drug traffickers. He cited his sentencing in July of convicted drug trafficker Qun Yu, who was sentenced to a total of 28 years in prison.

The judge later issued a written order in which he urged the Legislature to look into the law that provides a mandatory 25year prison sentence on anyone convicted of trafficking "ice" even it only involves 3 grams and the defendant has no prior conviction.

Under the mandated sentence, Xiao would be penalized and treated similar to a defendant who may be convicted of trafficking 5 to 100 kilos of "ice," who has several prior convictions, and who may have sold "ice" to school children.

In Xiao's case, assistant attorney general Russell Lorfing recommended the 25-year mandatory sentence. Chief public defender Adam Hardwicke, counsel for Xiao, recommended the \$10,000 fine without the 25-year sentence for trafficking and five years for the possession charge

cronesia will be in attendance.

The public is invited to attend this ceremony.

On July 26, 2011, the U.S. Senate confirmed Manglona as judge of the District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands. Three days later, on July 29, 2011, President Barack Obama signed Manglona's commission. This marked the first time an indigenous person of the Northern Mariana Islands will serve as a federal judge—a historic moment for the Commonwealth. (PR)

OIA informing it about the decision. Aughenbaugh believes this will be supported by the federal agency.

He explained that the request to redirect the ILS funds, initiated by the CNMI-CIP office in consultation with the Tinian delegation and the governor's office, requires OIA's formal approval.

"There's no concern on canceling the project but the redirection of ILS funds needs the approval of the OIA and, as far as I know, no formal response has yet been issued to date," he said.

Tinian delegation chair Sen. Jude Hofschneider (R-Tinian) earlier said that they plan to divert the \$3.5 million federal funding to other projects. Close to \$500,000 will be used for the emergency procurement of major bollards for the Tinian harbor. The remaining amount will be diverted to improve the terminal infrastructure, parking, and probably design and construction of a storage fuel tank.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority, which administers the island's airport and seaport, said that some portion of the ILS funds can be used to buy a cargo conveyor, stairs for deplaning passengers, and to meet other requirements of the Transportation Security Administration.

The Tinian municipality and CPA earlier disclosed that Sichuan Airlines wants to bring direct flights to Tinian within

22 Saipan beach sites red-flagged

The Division of Environment Quality has red-flagged 22 beach sites on Saipan and is advising the public not to fish or swim within 300 feet of these locations for the next 48 hours or until otherwise notified.

The affected sites are the beaches at Palms Resort, San Roque school, Plumeria Hotel, Aqua Resort Club, Tanapag Meeting Hall, Central Repair Shop, DPW Channel bridge, south Puerto Rico dump, Outer Cove Marina, Smiling Cove Marina, beach north of American Memorial Park, Hyatt Regency, Fiesta Resort beach, drainage south of the Fiesta Resort, Hafadai Hotel, Hafadai drainage, Garapan Fishing Dock, Garapan Beach, Garapan Beach drainage, Sugar Dock, CK District 2 drainage, and Hopwood Jr. High School beach.

DEQ said that samples collected from these locations had excessive concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria (enterococci) that exceeded the CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards. These bacteria can indicate the presence of human and animal waste in the water. Water samples were taken from 38 locations on Saipan coast every Wednesday. For more information, contact DEO at 664-8500. (DEO)

NMI delegation joins push for creation of IL organization

By CLARISSA V. DAVID clarissa_david@saipantribune.com REPORTER

Jason Teregeyo, president of the Independent Living Group, a non-profit advocacy group under the Center for Independent Living in the CNMI, wants to see the passage of a bill that seeks to establish a new Independent Living Administration.

The bill, filed with the U.S. Senate Committee on Health,

Commonwealth Cancer Asso-

ciation volunteers who recently

graduated will conduct their

first breast and cervical health

Tina Sablan, CCA program

manager, said the event is slated

By CLARISSA V. DAVID

outreach next month.

REPORTER

Susupe.

Education, Labor & Pensions, would strengthen the IL program across the nation by creating a new organization within the Department of Education and independent of the Rehabilitation Services Administration, according to the National Council on Independent Living.

NCIL advances independent living and the rights of people with disabilities through consumer-driven advocacy. It enviwith disabilities are valued equally and participate fully. "I feel that this would really

benefit the Center for Living Independently and the Workforce Investment Act nationwide, which will open employment for people with disability and lessen all the red tapes we have to go through," said Teregevo.

Teregeyo, along with personal assistant Dolores Moteisou, attended the 2011 NCIL Annual Conference at the Grand Hyatt, Washington D.C. on July 12 to 17. The trip was funded by the CLI-CNMI.

In his trip report, Teregeyo said it was a great privilege to represent the CLI-CNMI in the conference, which served as an opportunity to learn more about NCIL.

Although CLI centers in the mainland are bigger and far advanced, Teregeyo noted that the CNMI center still manages to provide services to people with disabilities so they can live independently and be a part of the community.

Teregeyo also noted that the challenges faced by these CLI centers vary. In the CNMI, the challenge is employers who are unwilling to hire people with disabilities due to liability isJason Teregeyo. president of the Independent Living Group, a non-profit advocacy group under the Center

for Independent Living in the CNMI, second right, and his personal assistant, Dolores Moteisou, far right, join representatives of other CLI across the U.S. in a march to Capitol Hill on July 14 as part of the 2011 National Council on Independent Living Annual Conference held at the Grand Hyatt in Washington, D.C.

sues, he said.

During his trip, Teregeyo met with CNMI Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan and encouraged him to support bills that would benefit people with disabilities throughout the U.S. and its territories.

"One motivation that this conference gave me is to inspire our community to be involved in our organization, to be peer mentors for people with disabilities," he added.

Teregeyo thanked the CLI-CNMI board of directors, executive director Lydia Igitol, and adviser Bud White who encouraged and recommended him to represent the center at this year's conference.

"It was a great experience and I learned and [gained] a new perspective about Independent Living centers," said Teregeyo. "I would recommend others with disabilities here in the CNMI to attend such conference in the near future for it is very beneficial in many ways."

for Sept. 3 from 6am to 11am at "In addition to the training the Sabalu Market grounds in "CCA breast and cervical health outreach volunteers, many of whom are also nurses,

will be there in partnership with the Department of Public Health to provide free health screenings (blood pressure, blood sugar, and body mass index), health educacal cancer," said Sablan. Sablan told Saipan Tribune tion, and referrals for breast and/ or cervical screenings or other

New CCA volunteers to do

health outreach next month

services," she said. A total of 30 volunteers graduated on Aug. 13 from the breast and cervical health outreach training program, the first to be organized by CCA.

The six-week program covered Cancer 101; Basics of Breast & Cervical Health; Nutrition, Physical Activity, &BMI; Navigating Resources and the Comprehensive Cancer Control Program; the Breast & Cervical

Screening Program; Patient Privacy Rights; Health & Wellness as a Lifestyle; Outreach Strategies & Communication Skills; and Survivorship.

The training program was funded through grants from the Pacific Center of Excellence in the Elimination of Disparities at the University of Hawaii and the TakeCare Foundation.

sessions, volunteers brainstormed and began developing a year-long outreach plan that will include materials and activities aimed at promoting a healthy lifestyle, breast and cervical health awareness, and screenings for breast and cervi-

that the volunteers are already working with Glimpses, the marketing agency contracted to develop the outreach materials.

"Glimpses has been working with the volunteers to identify the types of materials they want to use, the types of incentives that they want to give out that would be tied in with their message. They will be using that over the course of their activities throughout the year," added Sablan.



SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: SEPTEMBER 13, 2011 • TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"PURCHASE OF TWO (2) SETS OF 2-PASSENGERS PERSONAL WATERCRAFTS - CIF ROTA AND TINIAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY - BOATING SAFETY SECTION (ROTA AND TINIAN BRANCH"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THIS IS A FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECT; AS SUCH, <u>LOCAL PREFERENCE IS NOT</u> AVAIL ARLE RECALISE ITS LISE IS PROHIBITED BY FEDERAL LAW GRANTING FUNDING AVAILABLE, BECAUSE ITS USE IS PROHIBITED BY FEDERAL LAW FOR THIS PROJECT

/S/ RAMON C. MAFNAS COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC SAFETY



PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY **CNMI GOVERNMENT**

/ITATION TO BID ITB11-DPS/RBS-128



"PURCHASE OF THREE (3) ROLL-UP ALUMINUM DOORS TO INCLUDE REMOVAL AND INSTALLATION FOR THE **DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY - BOATING SAFETY** SECTION"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THIS IS A FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECT; AS SUCH, $\underline{\textit{LOCAL PREFERENCE IS NOT AVAILABLE}}$, BECAUSE ITS USE IS PROHIBITED BY FEDERAL LAW GRANTING FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT

/S/ RAMON C. MAFNAS COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC SAFETY

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Proposed Amendment to the Official Saipan Zoning Map (Rezone)

for LLC Enterprises

The Commonwealth Zoning Board is seeking your comments on the following proposed amendment (rezone) to the Official Saipan Zoning Map. Mr. Joseph M. Pangelinan requests to rezone lots # 008 H 03, 008 H 04, 008 H 05, and 008 H 06 from 'Village Residential" to "Village Commercial", to construct an apartment building. This area is located between Barbara and Carmen Avenues, just south of the Chalan Kanoa U.S. Post

A public hearing will be held on:

Date: Thursday, September 1, 2011

5:00 pm Time:

Zoning Office conference room, 2nd floor, Joeten Place:

Dandan Bldg.

Comments on the proposal may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may be submitted directly to the Zoning Office before 4:30 pm, August 31, 2011. Please send written comments via e-mail to staff@zoning.gov.mp, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or deliver them to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, DanDan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please contact Therese T. Ogumoro at 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq.) and the Saipan Zoning Law of 2008.

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Chairman

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Proposed Amendment to the Official Saipan Zoning Map (Rezone) For An Manufacturing Partnership

The Commonwealth Zoning Board is seeking your comments on the following proposed amendment (rezone) to the Official Saipan Zoning Map. Mr. Li Xiang Ming requests to rezone lot 550New-8-R1 from "Mixed Commercial" to "Industrial", for the manufacturing of concrete hollow blocks. This area is located along Afetnas Road.

A public hearing will be held on:

Date: Thursday, September 1, 2011

Time: 5:00 pm

Place: Zoning Office conference room, 2nd floor, Joeten Dandan Bldg.

Comments on the proposal may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may be submitted directly to the Zoning Office before 4:30 pm, August 31, 2011. Please send written comments via e-mail to staff@zoning.gov.mp, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or deliver them to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, DanDan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please contact Therese T. Ogumoro at 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq.) and the Saipan Zoning Law of 2008.

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Chairman

Roll Call

Preliminary Matters Call to Order

- Adoption of Agenda Adoption of August 4, 2011 minutes
- **Public Comments**

Public Hearings

Rezone Application #2011-1405: Mr. Joseph M. Pangelinan of LLC Enterprises is requesting to rezone lots # 008 H 03, 008 H 04, 008 H 05, and 008 H 06 from "Village Residential" to "Village Commercial". Mr. Pangelinan wishes to construct a four-unit apartment building. This area is located between Barbara and Carmen Avenues just north of the Chalan Kanoa U.S. Post Office

Notice of Zoning Board Meeting
The regular monthly meeting of the Zoning Board will be held on Thursday,
September 1, 2011 at 5:00 PM, Zoning Office, 2nd Floor,
Joeten DanDan Commercial Bldg., Saipan

Rezone Application #2011-1452: Mr. Li Xiang Ming is requesting to rezone lot 550New-8-R1 from "Mixed Commercial" to "Industrial", for the manufacturing of concrete hollow blocks. This area is located along Afetnas Road, San Antonio.

C. Communications/ Reports

D. Old Business.

Conditional Use Application 2011-0034 – Big Boy Marine Sports, Inc. is requesting to establish a commercial garage to provide vehicle repair and custom painting services to the general public on Lot 409-1-R1, along Mnsgr. Guerrero Road in As Terlaje.

- Update on SZL text amendments
- Office operations report

Executive (Closed) Session.

Miscellaneous: Other Matters, Announcements, Next Meeting, Adjourn.

For guestions or access to materials to be considered at the Board meeting, or if you require assistance, please contact Therese T. Ogumoro, Acting Zoning Administrator, at 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32. as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & 10 CMC 3511, et seq.).

Diego C. Blanco, Zoning Board Chairman

NMC Nursing graduate passes NCLEX on 1st try

Another recent nursing graduate of the Northern Marianas College passed the rigorous National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses on the first attempt. Hee Yong "Sophia" Yoon took the exam on Aug. 2, just a few months after receiving her degree in nursing from NMC

The NCLEX-RN tests an individual's nursing knowledge, skills, and abilities essential to the safe and effective practice of nursing at the entry level. The exam is used by nursing boards in all 50 United States and all U.S. territories to award nurse licenses. Licensed nurses may have their credentials endorsed by a state or a territory's board upon meeting board requirements without having to retake

After graduating from Mount Carmel High School in 2008, Yoon decided to pursue her studies at NMC.

"I was actually having diffi-

culty deciding which major to pursue after finishing high school so my parents suggested for me to pursue nursing," said Yoon. "Since my favorite subject was science, I decided to go for it."

Yoon later received the "Most Dedicated" award at the NMC 2011 Nursing Pinning Ceremony. Yoon was also recognized for her academic achievements when she was inducted into Phi

Theta Kappa, an international

honor society at two-year colleges. She also graduated from NMC cum laude.

"At the beginning, I thought studying nursing at NMC would not be that difficult but I

> was proven wrong," said Yoon. "It was challenging but I became a more confident, responsible person."

As an NMC student, Yoon was an active member of both Phi Theta

Kappa and the NMC Nursing Club. Yoon participated in a variety of community service activities from health screenings to beach cleanups, and even served as the NMC Nursing Club public relations

officer during her last semesters at NMC.

"We are very proud of Sophia for passing the NCLEX on the first attempt," said NMC nursing chair Rosa M. Tudela. "We hope to see her begin her career as a registered nurse, and wish her the best on her future endeavors."

Yoon's future plans include getting hired as a nurse, and turning her associate degree in Nursing from NMC into a bachelor's degree.

"I just want to thank the many people who helped me through all this: my family, friends, the Do-eul Scholarship committee, and of course, my nursing instructors for helping me and pushing me to do my best," said Yoon. (NMC)

be available. (PR)



Aug. 25, 1999

OSHA seeks partnership with SGMA

The U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration is looking at forging "cooperative partnership" with the Saipan Garment Manufacturers Association in efforts to ensure compliance with local and federal laws as well as to improve working conditions on the island. Jim Wulff, safety and health manager for OSHA Region 9 which covers the CNMI, said there is a marked improvement in the conditions at several factories, but added others may need to step up their in-house safety and health programs. He also hailed the SGMA's decision to conduct workshop for its members as part of the implementation of the Code of Conduct that will spell out efforts by the group to comply with the OSHA regulations.

Tinian Dynasty seeks dismissal of \$10M lawsuit

Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino is seeking the dismissal of the \$10 million lawsuit filed by a pregnant employee who had a miscarriage after slipping off the floor in the hotel's kitchen area. Anthony Long, attorney for Tinian Dynasty, said the claim for damages sought by Benselin John was covered by the Workers Compensation program, which he said is "the plaintiff's exclusive remedy under the CNMI law." John was employed as a kitchen steward assigned at the hotel staff canteen. She was tasked with dishwashing and cleaning the kitchen area.

Aug. 25, 2000

Govt sued for unlawful termination

A former government employee filed a civil complaint yesterday in the U.S. District Court against the CNMI government, claiming unlawful termination from her job at the Governor's Developmental Disabilities Council. Emerencia Peter-Palican from Saipan now wants her government job back, aside from seeking undetermined amount in damages, including attorney's fees and litigation costs, arising from her termination in December 11, 1997. In her suit filed by lawyer Douglas F. Cushnie, she named as defendants Director of Personnel Mathilda A. Rosario, and GDDC Executive Director Thomas J. Camacho, in his official and individual capacity.

Materials on PCB donated to local library

A local group has initiated a drive to widen community awareness on the impact of Polychlorinated Biphenyl and other toxic chemicals by donating resource materials on the subject to the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library yesterday. Books, pamphlets, and other reading materials produced by Greenpeace are now on display at the public library in Susupe through the efforts of the Concerned Citizens of Tanapag, a group of anti-PCB advocates. Member Mike Evangelista said yesterday the learning resources donated to the library covers a wide range of topics related to various toxic chemicals being dumped into the Pacific.

Aug. 25, 2002

Teacher-aides train to better help students with disabilities

The Public School System, in collaboration with the University of Hawaii and the Northern Marianas College, held Saturday a whole day of training for teachers-aides specializing on the needs of students with disabilities. The teacher aides-at least 26 of them from various public schools across the Northern Marianas-gathered at the Hopwood Junior High School grounds starting at 10am yesterday for a Related Services Technicians training. According to University of Hawaii faculty member and physical therapist Katherine Rathliffe, the RST Family Fun Fair gathered teacher-aides, their families, and students with disabilities in a whole day of fun and awareness activities.

Tinian Head Start in peril

Northern Marianas students have eagerly counted the days left of the summer for their return to the academic world but not all of them are bound to go back to school yet. Head Start students on Tinian will have to spend the whole day Monday with their moms or sitters, as their teachers have reportedly vowed to boycott tomorrow's classes due to wage and salary problems. At least 50 Tinian Head Start students—including those with disabilities—may not be able to go to school until the Public School System and the Head Start program address the teachers' concerns. According to acting site Program Manager Evelyn Evangelista, Head Start classes will not resume tomorrow after two teachers did not receive their respective paychecks Friday.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Veteran outreach in September

This is to let all veterans and all concerned know that Tina San Agustin, Department of Veterans Affairs legal administrative specialist from Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, will be on Saipan on Sept. 28-29, 2011 for a veterans outreach on veterans federal benefits. She will be also entertaining questions and assisting with claims. The outreach will be held at the Military & Veterans Affairs Office on Capital Hill, Bldg.

No. 1364, Saipan. If you wish to make an appointment or for further information, contact Bernie B. Dela Cruz at the Office of Military & Veterans Affairs at 664-2650. (PR)

MMA exec on *Marianas* **Agupa** this Saturday

This Saturday, Aug. 27, 2011, Marianas Agupa will feature Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Perry Tenorio between 10am and 10:30am on Magic 100.3 FM. The discussion will be on MVA's program to promote the CNMI as a tourist destination.

The Chamorro Radio Talk Show Program is from 9am to 11am and is hosted by Glenn H. Manglona. Featured reports: World report and program review by former mayor Joseph S. Inos and a report from Rota with correspondent and commentator Thomas D. Mendiola; a special segment called Hafa Mohon with Juanita Mendiola and a report from Tinian by correspondent and radio commentator David M. Cing. Simultaneous Internet streaming via www.magic100radio.com will

Kagman High orientation set

Kagman High School orientation is set to begin Thursday and Friday this week. Attendance is mandatory! Parents and students meet in the cafeteria to go over the expectations and events planned for school year 2011-2012.

- Thursday: Freshmen meet at 9am and sophomores at 10:30am.
- Friday: Juniors meet at 9am and seniors at 1030am.

If you are a parent of multiple students in different classes, attending one orientation instead of three is fine. Schedules will be distributed. You must register to get a schedule. No registration, no schedule. (PR)

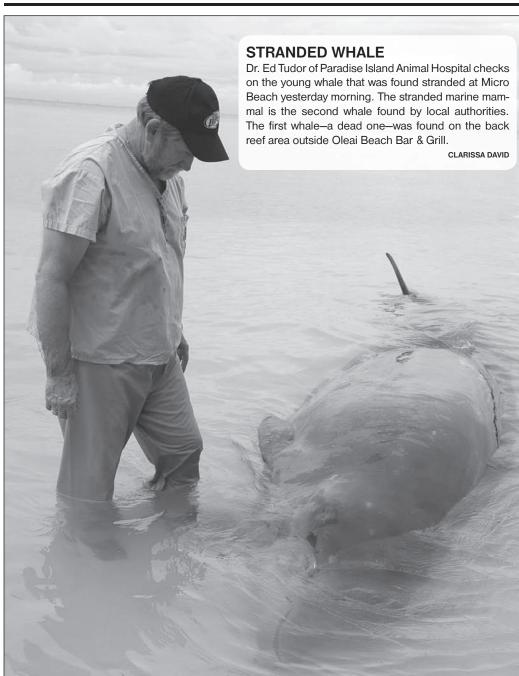
Pacific Basin telehealth workshop set

The telehealth workshop "Telehealth Today and Tomorrow: Guam and Beyond" will be held Aug. 30 in the UOG School of Business and Public Administration, IT&E Lecture Hall, room 129 from 10am to noon.

Dr. Joe Humphry, co-principal investigator, and Bruce Best, Pacific Islands project manager, PBTRC, will present on telehealth in the Pacific and lead discussions on the value added opportunities to using telehealth.

The Pacific Basin Telehealth Resource Center provides telehealth technical assistance and program support for the Pacific Basin. The PBTRC will advance the development, implementation, and integration of

Humphry and Best are available for individual discussions on the planning, implementation and sustainability of telehealth programs. For more information contact Hawaii (808) 692-1090, Deborah P. Peters, program director, dbpeters@hawaii.edu, or Joe Humphry, jhumphry@hawaii. rr.com; or in Guam Bruce Best (671) 688-5301 or bbest@ guam.net. (PR)



SAIPAN TRIBUNE THURSDAY, AUGUST 25, 2011 **9**

Island Snapshots

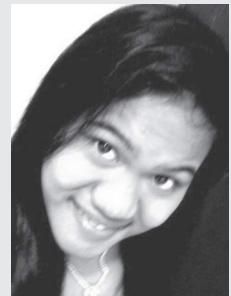


VACATION TIME

Thomas Deleon Guerrero, 23, casts his net in the Saipan lagoon Thursday afternoon last week. Deleon Guerrero, who is studying in San Diego, California, is on island for summer vacation.

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS



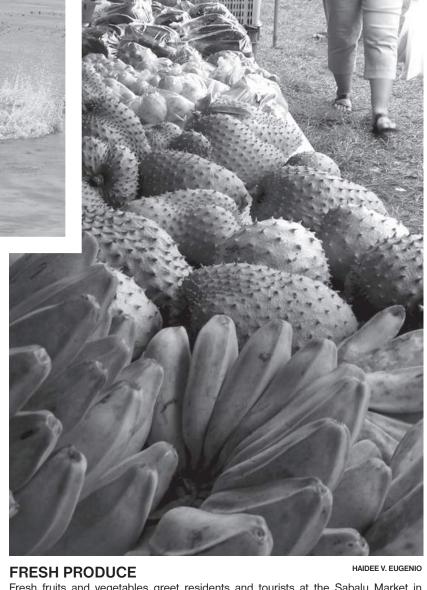


Far left, happy 1st birthday to Erin Kim Sohn, who is celebrating her special day today! May you enjoy your day with laughter and fun! We thank God for giving you to our family a year ago and we wish you the best for growing healthy. God bless and may you have joyful moments day by day. Greetings come from your family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Left, happy birthday Stacy Ramangmou! May you enjoy your day and have many more birthdays to come. God bless you! Greetings come from all your family and friends.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Fresh fruits and vegetables greet residents and tourists at the Sabalu Market in Susupe Saturday morning. The Saipan Sabalu Farmers Market Inc. plans to also include as members of their group ranchers and cattle owners on the island, says its president Ramon B. Camacho, who also chairs the Saipan Municipal Council.



EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Security officers Marciano M. Sulapas, Jr. and Francis A. Depich were recognized by G4S Security Services (CNMI) Inc. as its Employees of the Month for July 2011. Sulapas is shown here after being presented with his certificate of appreciation by G4S CNMI Operation Manager Kathy Q. Casil, assigned Safety & Security manager Mr. Terry and operation supervisor Altaf Hossain.



WEEKEND BAZAAR

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Vendors sell their wares—from new and used clothing to electronics, kitchenware, plants, books, perfume, accessories, among other things—in front of the Marianas Business Plaza in Susupe on Saturday. This openmarket concept has become a regular Saturday feature on Saipan, which also has a Saturday farmers market at the Civic Center, also in Susupe, where fresh fruits, vegetables, ornamental plants are being sold.

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Opinion



Published daily at 2/F JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950

Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR

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MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Obama's promising move on immigration

(c) 2011, Los Angeles Times

hen the Obama administration last week announced its intention to review the cases of 300,000 immigrants ensuared in the nation's deportation process, as well as to institute new guidelines going forward—with the goal of distinguishing between those who pose threats to public safety from those who are merely in the country illegally—reaction reverberated along well-worn lines. Enforcement hawks denounced the move as amnesty; immigration doves responded warily, worried that it would substitute for more comprehensive efforts to fix the nation's broken immigration system.

Both sides have reason for concern. Nevertheless, failing to please the extremes in this debate is hardly proof of failure. In fact, this is a sensible plan that offers at least temporary relief for deserving students, veterans, the elderly, crime victims and those with family—including same-sex partners—in the United States. It should not substitute for broader reform, but it will relieve some needless suffering until such a measure passes, as it must.

Among those who will receive the benefits of the administration's action are so-called DREAM Act students, young men and women in the country because their parents brought them here as children and who now are enrolled in American colleges and universities. To deport these students after investing in their education is neither smart nor compassionate; Obama's policy will effectively allow them to stay, at least for a time, by acknowledging the obvious fact that they are more desirable than immigrants who have committed crimes while in the United States. Illegal immigrants who have served in the U.S. military would receive the same protection.

There are other benefits as well. Backlogged immigration courts can clear some of their dockets and give more attention to serious criminals, those whom this country is most eager to be rid of. And they can tend to the details of those who fear persecution in their home countries and thus may be deserving of special protection here.

Those who see this as amnesty misconstrue the president's immigration record to date. The Obama administration has spent more money and assigned more boots to patrol the border with Mexico than any previous administration. It has deported nearly 1 million people. This is not an administration that is soft on illegal immigration.

But there's a difference between being strict about the nation's borders and dumb about the oversight of those who already are in the country, obeying its laws, working and paying taxes. Recognizing that it's impossible to expel every person who is here illegally, this policy directs the nation's deportation efforts away from those who are contributing to society and toward those who are degrading it.

Last week's announcement should be the beginning of a debate, not the end of one. The lasting fix, as all reasonable participants in this conversation acknowledge, would be for Congress to pass legislation that secures American borders while providing a route for those here illegally to seek citizenship.



Legal or not, these students deserve a chance

By ELENA T. REIGADAS
LOS ANGELES TIMES

t happened again this semester. A student came to my office and asked me to close the door. After going through this drill so many times before, I knew what would come next. In a process akin to "coming out of the closet," these students reveal to me their terrible secret: They are undocumented immigrants.

I am a community college professor. In addition to teaching, my role includes mentoring students, helping them achieve their academic and career goals, and identifying the brightest ones to become role models, tutors and peer mentors. More often than not, these students cannot attain such goals because of their immigration status.

Hearing the same heartbreaking stories from the best and brightest underscores for me the immense potential that is wasted by not providing them a path to legalization.

The majority of my undocumented students were brought to this country as young children. They played no part in their parents' decision to immigrate to the United States. They are what psychologist Celia Falicov calls "reluctant immigrants." Some were so young when they immigrated that they believed that they were born here. Many do not discover this hidden aspect of their identity until high school or later. Many don't speak their native languages; others are bilingual and speak flawless English.

Take the case of an honors student, one of the best I've ever had. Up to the moment when she came to my office and told me her secret, I thought of her as the ultimate all-American student activist: intelligent, hardworking, highly motivated, a sophisticated writer and speaker, with an incredible disposition to help others and a commitment to social justice. She hopes to pursue an advanced degree in psychology. I could not believe my ears when she "came out" to me in Spanish!

She had come to the U.S. from South America when she was 8 years old. Because of her academic performance she was recruited to attend UC Berkeley and UCLA. She declined these offers because of financial hardship, opting to attend a local community college instead. While studying there, she made every attempt to legalize her situation through her *abuelita*—her grandma—a U.S. citizen.

The family was very excited when they received a letter from the Department of Homeland Security granting the grandmother an interview that would begin the process toward the student's "legal residency." Or so they thought. Sadly, her grandmother died of cancer two weeks before the scheduled interview. After all the money paid to immigration services and lawyers, her case is now closed. The DHS would not consider the student's circumstances, and her "legalization" remains uncertain. She graduated this spring with a 4.0 grade-point average, making the dean's and president's lists. This is a small consolation for a student who could achieve any goal she chooses. But like her legalization, her future looks uncertain.

Or take the case of the first student to "come out" to me. He was a gifted student, born in a remote Asian nation, brought to the U.S.

as a toddler and who had since forgotten his native language. We met when he took my general psychology class. I invited him to become the tutor for the class, and this brought him to my office, where he shared his secret with me. He had dreams of continuing his education in the field of economics but was pessimistic about his future, and I sensed helplessness in his words. I saw him regularly while he was my student and volunteered his time to help others, but I haven't seen him since. I often think of him and hope that he has found a pathway to citizenship and is on his way to becoming a great economist.

There are countless such students on college campuses across America, and they come from around the world. Why are so many of them overachievers? Maybe it's because talent knows no borders. Or perhaps it has to do with the immigrant ethic of hard work, family values, honor and respect that immigrant parents instill by example in their children. The irony lies in the fact that in using these values as the path to success, these undocumented immigrants become the very embodiment of the American dream. At the same time they are unable to become citizens and contribute fully to society. We are literally allowing the talent of our undocumented students to go to waste.

Those of us who work in higher education see firsthand the predicament of our undocumented students. Jose Antonio Vargas, who was brought to the U.S. from the Philippines when he was 12, described it well in a June *New York Times Magazine* article: "After so many years of trying to be a part of the system, of focusing all my energy on my professional life, I learned that no amount of professional success would solve my problem or ease the sense of loss and displacement I felt." Clearly, the effect on students of being undocumented can be long-lasting and carries with it an untold emotional burden. This is in addition to the problems they face in finding jobs even if, against all odds, they manage to attain a degree.

While U.S. universities are not producing enough skilled technical talent to make this country competitive in the 21st century economy, our undocumented talent is squandered. Currently, the only hope for legalization is the federal DREAM Act. It would allow individuals who were brought to the U.S. as children, who have lived here at least 10 years and who are in college or in the military to apply to become legal residents. Regrettably, partisan disagreements have prevented its passage. As a nation founded on immigration, it is our moral and civic duty to take responsibility, demand more from our political leaders and hold them accountable on this issue.

I want to be able to tell the next student who comes to my office to reveal his or her secret identity that there is no need to close the door, and that the dream of citizenship will soon be a reality. Offering a clear path to the legalization of our undocumented students is no longer just a political issue; it is also about individual human rights and the best use of our human capital for the benefit of society as a whole.

Elena T. Reigadas is an assistant professor of psychology at Los Angeles Harbor College. She wrote this for the Los Angeles Times.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The Saipan Tribune reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clar-

ity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Browner pastures

By RIK VILLEGAS

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Rik coaches businesses through their most challenging transition points to develop consistently profitable businesses that operate without them. He can be contacted at RikVillegas@gmail.com, and you can comment on this article at http://rikv.blogspot.com.



t's reported that the CNMI population has dropped from 65,927 people in 2006 to an estimated 46,000. Most of those are probably associated with the demise of the garment industry, but there are also many U.S. citizens who are seeking browner pastures elsewhere—you can't get much greener than Saipan with all the rain we've been having.

The biggest factor why individuals leave is to improve their economic standing. It's no surprise that the CNMI revenue has been in freefall for the last few years. We're seeing the impact with ongoing salary cuts, and budget cuts. The Retirement Fund was hosed for several years by the government and now it's predicted to last only another three years. So it won't be surprising when the estimated revenue for the next fiscal year is announced that more individuals will be packing for the mainland.

Oh, I forgot, we've been told that casinos will be our saving grace. "If you build it, they will come" is the popular line from the *Field of Dreams* movie. Well, if our field of dreams is tied up in casinos, we'll probably strike out because the mecca of gambling in the U.S. has been hard-hit lately. In fact, Las Vegas has been named as the nation's foreclosure capital with one in every 99 homes receiving a foreclosure notice in July, according to residential data tracking firm RealtyTrac. One in every seven Nevada homes is currently vacant and nearly two-thirds of existing Vegas homes sold for a loss to owners between April and June. In addition, they're suffering from a 13.8 percent unemployment rate as of June this year, and the jobless number is likely to worsen.

What happens in Vegas isn't staying in Vegas as other cities and states are feeling the pinch. That won't stop many from trying their luck elsewhere as budgets are cut further, salaries are squeezed more, and businesses are forced to shut their doors. With the federal debt becoming a major issue and ARRA funds drying up next month, we're not going to see more federal dollars flowing into the Commonwealth. "We accept food stamp" banners will become even more prevalent as more and more people are in need of a limited amount of federal assistance.

This is a depressing scenario, but one that has been foretold numerous times by myself and other columnists. The sky has fallen and most of us are lost in the fog. What can we do? Even though too little has been done too late, there's never a better time than now to take action.

For business owners, you need to go where there is a market for your products. Examine the potential customers that still exist on Saipan, and determine if it is enough to sustain your business. There are numerous other ways to get your products to those who need and can afford them. The Internet has allowed many companies to sell globally. Going global expands your offering to a larger target market. This can be done through exporting to foreign countries, foreign licensing, and joint ventures. It also involves developing a global strategy. If you have a product that is unique, you may be able to form a strategic alliance with a well-established distributor in another country.

Location is an important factor to consider when deciding where to locate your business. When I lived in Logan, Utah, one of my clients was a videographer, specializing in wedding videos. His top end video cost about \$600 and he was only making enough to pay for his expenses. After a few months of working with him, he doubled his sales, but I told him that if he wanted to make more money he was going to have to move to a larger city. I was thinking of Salt Lake City, but he was even thinking bigger and moved to a retirement community in southern Florida. There he was able to sell similar videos he made in Logan, but he charged \$3,000 or more for them. That's five times the amount for the same product. Not only was he able to earn more per client, but there were more clients willing to pay his fees.

Before you decide to move, realize that Saipan still has untapped potential. There are opportunities in every challenge. It takes some innovative thinkers to help uncover them, and leaders to make those ideas become a reality. The grass may be greener on the other side of the world, but you need to do your homework before you move so you won't be moving to browner pastures.

College: Expensive, but a smart choice

By MICHAEL GREENSTONE and ADAM LOONEY

he 3 million Americans who graduated from high school last spring have had to grapple with a big decision: whether to continue with their educations this fall. In today's economic climate, a growing number of families are questioning the value of higher education. Will an investment in college pay off? Or will it simply be a high-cost ticket to the ranks of the unemployed?

We've just completed a study that draws on a variety of data to help answer those questions, and our research suggests that college is not only worth it; it's probably going to be the best investment a person makes in a lifetime. Even though the cost of tuition, room, board and lost wages is substantial, and even though the job market remains tough even for college graduates, the evidence is unequivocal: Those with college degrees, on average, earn far more than those without them.

First, we looked at what we call the Class of the Great Recession—those young adults who graduated from college during the last three years. The results surprised us. We've all seen the headlines about how difficult it is for new graduates to find work in these tough economic times. But almost 90 percent of these young college graduates were employed in 2010, compared with only 64

percent of their peers who did not attend college but went straight on to look for work. Even more astounding, the college graduates are making, on average, almost double the annual earnings of those with only a high school diploma. And this advantage is likely to stick with them over a lifetime of work. For example, at age 50 a college graduate earns about \$46,500 more per year than the average person with only a high school diploma.

A second way we assessed the value of higher education was to compare the rate of return for the investment in a college degree against other possible investment vehicles. By any measure, a college degree is a big investment that requires a lot of upfront time and money. When you add up the costs of tuition, books and fees, as well as the loss of earnings from going to school rather than working, the average cost of a four-year degree is about \$102,000. Of course, this is an average; some schools cost far more, while others cost less.

Let's assume that you're a high school graduate and you have \$102,000 to invest in your future. Is college your best bet? Or would you be better off putting the money into an alternative investment, like stocks or bonds, and earning the salary of a typical high school graduate over your lifetime?

By any financial measure, the investment in a college degree is the winning choice, with a rate of return of a whopping 15.2 percent a year on the \$102,000 investment for those who earn the

average salary for college graduates. This is more than double the average rate of return in the stock market during the last 60 years (6.8 percent), and more than five times the return to investments in corporate bonds (2.9 percent), gold (2.3 percent) long-term government bonds (2.2 percent) or housing (0.4 percent).

This high rate of return translates into large differences in earnings. Over a lifetime, the average college graduate earns roughly \$570,000 more than the average person with only a high school diploma. In addition, statistics show that college graduates on average live longer lives than high school graduates and tend to have higher job satisfaction.

Some high school students may be reluctant to choose the college path because they believe their experiences will be different and these benefits won't apply to them. But economic research concludes that many more students would gain from college than currently opt to attend.

We live in difficult economic times filled with challenging financial trade-offs. There is no guarantee with regard to any investment, but the evidence on education is clear: The more education you obtain, the better off your job prospects and future earnings.

Michael Greenstone directs the Hamilton Project at the Brookings Institution and is a professor of environmental economics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Adam Looney is policy director of the Hamilton Project and a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution. More on their research can be found at brookings.edu. They wrote this for the Los Angeles Times.

Letters to the Editor

Bring your signs and your voices

For decades, we have put up with the greed, selfishness, and overall corruption of our CNMI government. Our so-called "leaders" have been the main cause of the rapid decline of the CNMI, enacting laws that served themselves and reflected only their personal goals and desires. And yet we have voted these people into office over and over again countless times. So many times, in fact, that these people think that they can get away with anything. The time has come to give them a reality check and remind them who they really work for.

We are the people who elect them, and we demand that they listen to us!

The House of Representatives is intent on passing the fiscal year 2012 budget bill this Friday. Included in the bill are:

a pay raise for the lawmakers while they cut down on discre-

- tionary funds
 a \$4 million cut in PSS funding, a \$400,000 cut in NMC fund-
- a \$4 million cut in PSS funding, a \$400,000 cut in NMC funding
- an \$11,000 raise in BoE funding

They are also intent on passing House Local Bill 17-44, the Saipan casino bill, even after voters voted against a casino twice

For decades, we have put up with the greed, selfishness, and overall corruption of our CNMI government. Our so-called "leaders" have been the main cause of the rapid decline of the CNMI, enacting laws that served themselves and reflected only

He *knows* that people are against it, yet he is intent on pushing forward with it? *This is outrageous*! We can clearly see that our legislators seem to have forgotten or otherwise do not care about the will of their constituents. There has been great discussion about all of this on online forums and social media outlets, but

nothing has been done. It's time to stop talking, and start *doing* something about it.

We must come together and protest against these lawmakers and their intent to pass these bills. It's time, CNMI. We must show them who's boss! Together, with a united voice, we will remind them that they work for us, and we are not happy employers. They most certainly do not deserve a pay raise, and we do not want a casino on Saipan. On Friday, Aug. 26, 2011, we will make sure that they fully understand this. Meet us in front of the Legislature at 1pm, and bring your signs and your voices. On this day, CNMI, we will make history. Join us.

Kelvin Rodeo Glendale, CA

To all who aided Kagman High this summer

A huge shoutout of thanks and appreciation goes out to all those who came to help Kagman High School prepare for the opening of this school year. So much hard work, sweat, and love came from our community leaders and members that we can not express our thanks enough. Thank you to the Honorable Mayor Donald Flores, Rep. Ray Basa, Rep. Fred Deleon Guerrero and all of their staff. Thank you Sonny Pomee and da BOYZ for your organized efforts and dedica-

tion to complete our projects. Thank you to our office staff for preparing the food and refreshments for these volunteers. This school can not strive without our community efforts. Thank you all for your time, we look forward to working with you more in the future.

Leila Staffler

Vice principal, Kagman High School

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Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. South winds 15 to 20 mph

▲86° ▼78°

Palau

Yap

Chuuk

Pohnpei

Kosrae

Majuro

Auckland

Hong Kong

I os Angeles

Melbourne

New York

Honolulu

London

Manila

Miami

Osaka

Paris

Pusan

Rome

Salem

Seoul

Tokyo

San Francisco

Beijing

Micronesia

Guam and Rota Thunderstorms ▲83 ▼79

Rain

Rain

Rain

Rain

Rain

Around The Globe

Sunny

Showers

Showers

Sunnv

Partly Cloudy

Showers

Washington DC Mostly Sunny ▲89 ▼73

Thunderstorms ▲86 ▼78

Partly Cloudy ▲59 ▼48

Thundershowers ▲83 ▼68

Thundershowers ▲89 ▼83

Partly Cloudy ▲85 ▼64

Thundershowers ▲84 ▼80

Thundershowers ▲90 ▼80

Mostly Sunny ▲82 ▼69

Thunderstorms ▲87 ▼77

Mostly Sunny ▲ 78 ▼60

Thundershowers ▲79 ▼72

Mostly Sunny ▲92 ▼62

Thundershowers ▲87 ▼78



Partly sunny with isolated showers. Southwest winds 15 to 20 mph.

▲ 86° ▼ 78°

▲86 **▼**77

▲83 **▼**77

▲89 ▼73

▲86 **▼**77

▲84 **▼**77

▲87 **▼**77

▲64 ▼55

▲64 **▼**47

▲96 **▼**72

▲65 ▼56

▲81 ▼71

SATURDAY

Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲86° ▼78°

Mostly cloudy with

isolated showers

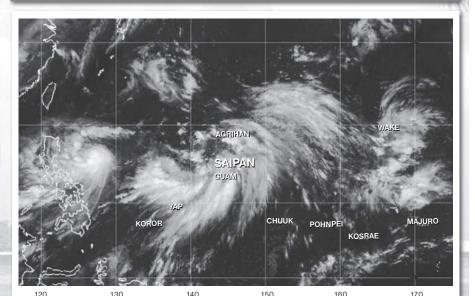
▲ 86° ▼ **78°**

Mostly cloudy with

isolated showers.

▲86° ▼78°

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 24, 2011

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A monsoon trough extends eastward from Tropical Storm Nanmadol (14W) centered at 16N128E through a circulation. A tropical cyclone formation alert by JTWC centered west-northwest of Saipan at 16N143E to end at 16N150E. Showers and a few thunderstorms are found east of the circulation over the Marianas within 210 miles of a line from 20N148E to 15N148E to 12N143E. Isolated thunderstorms are found west and north of the circulation within 100 miles of a line from 16N139E to 19N143E. Converging southwest winds south of the trough and circulation are producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms near and north of Yap within an area bounded by a line from 17N137E to 10N145E to 5N138E to 13N132E back to 17N137E. Converging trades northeast of the monsoon trough are generating scattered showers and a few thunderstorms over Minami Tori Shima within 230 miles of a line from 25N151E to 19N157E. A surface trough west of Iwo To is creating scattered showers north of a line from 25N134E to 23N136E to 23N141E. An upper-level trough extends southward from 25N167E over Wake Island to end near EQ164E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are found over Wake Island but north of Kwajalein within 175 miles of a line from 22N168E to 13N166E to 11N174E.

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10:38 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.1 Feet	Saturday	6:04 AM	6:33 PM	Saturday	3:50 AM	
5:57 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.7 Feet	Sunday	6:04 AM	6:33 PM	Sunday	4:50 AM	
10:58 PM	Today	Low Tide:	1.2 Feet	Monday	6:04 AM	6:32 PM	Monday	5:49 AM	

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PICTURES ■ ISLAND SNAPSHOTS

following

- Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones,
- accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings are other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration

ANNOUNCEMENTS

■ TRÁVELOGUE

■ COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organiza tions, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies

Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contrib utors must have the right to allow the Saipan Tribune to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb). ■ Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),
- the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months. ■ For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

■ Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

the name of contact person, and a phone number ■ Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to

next day's edition.

set

3:12 PM

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6:26 PM

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ARRIVALS

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF AUGUST 11, 2011

DEPARTURES

C09315 4:25am 5:00am 1, 5 3:20am 3:55am 1, 5 SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM) **GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN** 1. 5 via ROP C09317 4:25am 5:15am 2, 3, 4, 6, 7 C09314 2:20am 3:55am C09315 4:25am 6:00am 1, 5 via ROP 2:45am 3:35am 2, 3, 4, 6, 7 5K387 6:30am 7:20am C09313 7:55am 8:45am 3 6 3. 4. 7 C09313 8:30am 9:20am 6:35am 7:25am 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 C09596 3, 6 C09601 12:10pm 1:00pm 1.4.5.7 C09596 7:00am 7:50am 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 C09603 3:05pm 3:55pm 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 C09600 10:05am 10:55am 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 5K386 C09602 1:40pm 2:30pm 5:50pm 6:40pm 1, 4, 5, 7 C09605 6:35pm 7:25pm Daily C09604 5:10pm 6:00pm Daily C09599 9:35pm 10:25pm Daily C09606 8:10pm 9:00pm Daily

SAIPAN-NAGOYA (NGO) NAGOYA (NGO)-SAIPAN 8:20am 10:55am 3, 4, 7 11:55am 4:25pm 3, 4, 7 5K212 5K213

SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX) OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN 4:00am 6:40am 9:50pm 2:20am+1 Daily

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

3U8646

0Z606/701

0Z606/701

C09317/191

DL287/173

CO9313/183

C09603/183

0Z606/721

07606/721

C09603/179

0Z604/749

2:20am 11:15am

2:50am 11:15am

4:25am 9:45am

6:05am 9:55pm

7:55am 8:40pm

3:05pm 8:40pm

C09603/193 3:05pm 10:10pm

C09599/PR111 9:30pm 7:50am

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

2:20am 11:50am

2:50am 11:50am

3:05pm 9:25pm

3:30pm 11:00pm

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT) NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN DI 287 6:05am 8:45am Daily DI 298 10:25am 3:00pm Daily **DL297** 4:35pm 7:15pm Daily **DL288** 8:05pm 12:45am+1 Daily

9:00am 2:30pm 2, 4, 6, 7 0Z606 2:20am 6:00am 0Z603 07606 2:50am 6:30am 234567 07120 7:10pm 2:20am+1 Daily via KIX Daily via KIX 0Z119 4:00am 11:25am 0Z605 7:40pm 1:10am+1 7 0Z604 3:30pm 7:00pm 2, 4, 6, 7 8:10pm 1:40am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 07605

0Z120

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

SAIPAN-GUANZHOU (CAN) **GUANZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN** 4:20am 7:30am 2, 6 3U8645 7:40pm 3:00am+1 1, 5

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG) SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN 6:05am 8:30am 10:40pm 5:00am+1 4, 7 1.5 SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN 1 via ICN 02704/603 2, 4, 6, 7 12:10am 2:30pm 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN 7:45am 12:35am+1 Daily via NRT via ICN DL172/288 02702/605 3, 6 via GUM 12:45pm 1:10am+1 7 via ICN Daily via NRT 0Z702/605 12:45pm 1:40am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 3, 6 via GUM via ICN 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 C0190/9606 10:55am 9:00pm 3, 6 via GUM C0192/9596 9:55pm 7:25am+1 2.5 via via GUM 2. 5 via **GUM-Palau GUM-Palau** C0184/9596 10:55pm 7:50am+1 1. 3. 4. 6. 7 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM C0184/9596 11:25pm 7:50am+1 2, 5 via GUM via GUM PR110/C09596 10:00pm 7:25am 5, via GUM PR110/C09596 10:00pm 7:50am 1, 3, 6, 7 via GUM HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN 1 via ICN 0Z724/603 12:30am 2:30pm 2. 4. 6. 7

1:00am 2:30pm

1:25pm 1:40am+1

1:25pm 1:10am+1 7 via ICN

via ICN

2, 4, 6 via ICN

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

via ICN

C0180/9596 10:30pm 7:25am+1 5 via GUM C0180/9596 10:30pm 7:50am+1 1 via GUM LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6)

0Z750/603

0Z722/605

02722/605

2. 3, 4, 5, 6, 7

1.5 via GUM

via ICN

7 via ICN

and Sunday (7): 5K: FlyGuam: 3U: Sichuan Airlines: CZ: China Southern: CO: Continental: DL: Delta Airlines: OZ: Asiana

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA F	requency	Airline	ETD	ETA	requency
Guam-Rota				FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily	FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
Rota-Saipan			,	FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily	FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
Guam-Rota			·	FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily	FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Rota-Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily	THE IEU	10.00	10.10	Duny
Saipan-Rota				Tinian-Saipan			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily	FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
Rota-Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily	FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
Saipan-Rota			Ju., 1	FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
Rota-Guam			,	FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily	FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
				FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
Saipan-Tinian				FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily	FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily	FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily				'
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily	FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily	FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily	FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily



NMI CRIME **STOPPERS**

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone ■ *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 25, 2011 **13** SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Business

Thousands of travelers delayed by East Coast quake

WASHINGTON (AP)—Thousands of travelers flying to and from the East Coast were delayed Tuesday by an earthquake that shook airport terminals and forced the evacuation of air traffic control towers at some of the nation's busiest airports.

Immediately after the quake, the FAA ordered planes at airports around the country to stay on the ground rather than fly to airports in New York, Philadelphia, New Jersey, Washington, D.C., and Virginia where traffic was temporarily halted. Among major airports in the region, only New York's LaGuardia continued operations throughout the day.

By late afternoon, traffic at

all the airports was returning to normal, although delays were expected into the evening.

Delta Air Lines said it expected to cancel about 15 flights from JFK and a dozen flights from Reagan National because of the earthquake. JetBlue had resumed all operations, but it was urging passengers to check their flight status and expect delays both in and out of East Coast airports. Jet-Blue reported seven diversions, but no cancellations.

American Airlines diverted four planes away from the earthquake zone, said spokesman Tim Smith.

"In those first minutes, we didn't know what we had, so we woman Megan McCarthy.

sent them elsewhere until we had a better handle on what the conditions were," Smith said. He said all four planes would be refueled and eventually continue to their scheduled destination, although delays could snowball in the busy New York air corridor.

"Airplanes are coming and going," Smith said, "but at the New York airports, when you get a delay it tends to stay."

United Airlines diverted two JFK-bound planes; one to Pittsburgh and the other to Hartford, Conn. Both were expected to finish the trip to New York later Tuesday, said airline spokes-

We do have some delays, but (the earthquake) was a fairly minimal impact," she said.

Southwest Airlines expected delays on the East Coast to continue into Tuesday evening but didn't expect widespread cancellations, said spokeswoman Beth Harbin.

Two hours after the earthquake, the FAA was still reporting delays at Newark Lib-

erty International Airport and Reagan National Airport near Washington. Flights leaving the Philadelphia airport also experienced delays of more than an hour Tuesday afternoon.



A group of travelers check the departure board at Newark Liberty Airport after the East coast felt tremors from an earthquake in Virginia, Tuesday, Aug. 23, 2011 in Newark, N.J.

Libyan economy faces many hurdles after Gadhafi

The money is expected to

FRANKFURT, Germany (AP)—Europe and the United States are preparing to unfreeze billions of dollars in Libyan assets that will be crucial to the country's success after Moammar Gadhafi.

But even after the influx of money, Libya's economic recovery will be neither easy nor rapid. Its valuable oil sector could take a year or more to restart, and the economy will need many reforms after being ruled for decades by the whims of a dictator and his cronies. As fighting raged Thursday in the capital of Tripoli, rebel leaders eved the tens of billions of dollars that governments around the world froze during the early days of the uprising.

provide a financial cushion for Libya that would be the envy of other Middle Eastern countries that deposed rulers this year, such as Egypt. The European Union said

Tuesday it was preparing to unfreeze the money once the United Nations gives its approval. President Barack Obama indicated Monday that he was ready to do the same.

Said Hirsh, Mideast economist for the London-based Capital Economics, estimated Libya's frozen assets at around \$110 billion, about 110 percent of the country's GDP.

"Even if it takes time to recover all of these assets, a small amount will help the interim

government in the near term." Hirsh said in a research note. "It is possible that political stability can be quickly restored, and reconstruction efforts can commence."

The White House hoped to release in the coming days \$1 billion to \$1.5 billion—about half of the Gadhafi regime's liquid assets that have been frozen in the United States.

The U.S. has a total of \$37 billion in Libyan assets, most of it in real estate and other property holdings. Germany has some euro7.3 billion, Britain about 12 billion pounds (\$20 billion) and the Netherlands euro3 billion. The governments of Austria, Portugal and Spain have not revealed the size of assets seized in their countries.

Miyashita named to Morgan Stanley Smith Barney Pacesetter's Club

NEW YORK, NY—Morgan Stanley Smith Barney announced yesterday that financial adviser Jason B. Miyashita,

second vice president of its Wealth Management and senior investment management consultant of the Hagatna, Guam office, was named to the firm's Pacesetter's Club, a global recognition program

Miyashita

in their first five years, demonstrate the highest professional standards in addition to excellence in client service.

This is the fifth consecutive year that Miyashita has received this prestigious global recognition award.

Miyashita has been a member of Morgan Stanley Smith Barney for more than six years

with nine years served within the financial services industry. As a partner on the Asia Pacific Group Guam-based team at Morgan

Stanley Smith Barney, he provides a full suite of investment services to institutions, corporations. foundations. endowments, high networth investors and business owners focusing on wealth management, investment

for financial advisers who, with- management, managed money, estate planning, and retirement and education planning.

Gwen Pacarro, Complex Manager of Hawaii and Pacific Islands Complex, commented, "Because of Mr. Miyashita's superior dedication to clients, significant contributions to the financial services industry and local community as well as his proven leadership skills year

over year, he continues to realize this global recognition."

The Asia Pacific Group currently services clients in Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, Republic of Palau, Federated States of Micronesia, Republic of Marshall Islands, and Asia.

"Mr. Miyashita has consistently delivered both investment advice and strategies to a range of individual and institutional investors," commented Daniel Roland, senior vice president— Wealth Management and Senior Institutional Consultant of the Guam office. "In a sometimeschallenging market environment, we believe that investors need the advantages of professional investment management now more than ever. Mr. Miyashita has excelled at helping clients create personalized strategies tied to their long-term investment goals." (PR)

Toyota debuts new Camry amid tough competition

DEARBORN, Mich. (AP)— The Toyota Camry has been the best-selling car in America for nearly 15 years, its reputation for reliability keeping it on top even when the carmaker was hurt by major safety recalls.

But its lead has shrunk dramatically. Feeling the pressure, Toyota unveiled the 2012 Camry on Tuesday, its first redesign of the sedan in five years. While Toyota hopes to create buzz by lowering the Camry's price, improving its fuel economy and adding new features, it may not be enough to

keep the Camry No. 1 in the increasingly competitive market for midsize sedans.

"The Camry is not a slamdunk by itself anymore," says Jesse Toprak, vice president of industry trends and insights for car pricing site TrueCar.com.

Toyota showed off the new Camry on the Web and at events in California and elsewhere. It has given the car a sharper, more pointed hood, a quieter and roomier interior and more trunk space. It's also offering Entune, a system that lets drivers access

internet services like Pandora from their mobile phones using voice commands or an in-dash touch screen. But critics say the styling is

bland compared with edgier rivals like Nissan, Hyundai and Kia, and that Toyota saved money by using cheaper interior materials. "There's nothing fundamen-

tally wrong with it, but is that good enough nowadays? No, it's not," Toprak says.

The new Camry is due to arrive at dealerships in early October. A basic version will cost just under \$22,000 and get 35 mpg on the highway.

Toyota has sold more than 15 million Camrys worldwide since it introduced the car in 1983 to compete with the Honda Accord. It quickly became a big seller in the U.S. because of its reputation for reliability and good gas mileage. The Camry outsold the Ford Taurus in 1997 and has been the best-selling car in America every year except for 2001, when it was eclipsed by the Accord. Even Toyota's embarrassing series of safety recalls last year and earthquake-related shortages this spring didn't knock it down from No.1.



The 2012 Toyota Camry is unveiled during a news conference in Dearborn, Mich., Tuesday, Aug. 23, 2011.

EADING INDICATORS.

DOW 11,176.76 +322.11 +2.97%

S&P 1,162.35 0.00 0.00%

NASDAO 2,446.06 +100.68 +4.29%

EXCHANGE RATES

Australian Dollar British Pound 0.6064 In U.S. dollar Canadian Dollar 0.9884 **Chinese Yuan** 6.3891 0.6937

Hong Kong Dollar	7.797
Indian Rupee	45.7644
Indonesian Rupiah	8548.75
Japanese Yen	76.655
Malaysian Ringgit	2.9715
New Zealand Dollar	1.2082

Philippine Peso	42.3925
Singapore Dollar	1.2052
South Korean Won	1080.68
Swiss Franc	0.7936
Taiwan Dollar	29.0117
Thailand Baht	29.885

14 THURSDAY, AUGUST 25, 2011 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Nation

Strongest earthquake since 1944 jars East Coast

millions of people from Georgia to Canada were jolted Tuesday by the strongest earthquake to strike the East Coast since World War II. Three weeks before the 10th anniversary of Sept. 11, office workers poured out of New York skyscrapers and the Pentagon, relieved it was nothing more sinister than an act of nature.

There were no known deaths or serious injuries, but cracks appeared in the Washington Monument and the National Cathedral, which had three capstones break off its tower. Windows shattered and grocery stores were wrecked in Virginia, where the quake was centered. The White House and Capitol were evacuated.

The U.S. Geological Survey said the quake registered magnitude 5.8. By West Coast standards, that is mild. But the East Coast is not accustomed to earthquakes at all, and this one unsettled some of the nation's biggest population centers.

In New York and Washington, people said their thoughts were of an explosion or terrorist attack. In some cases, workers in Washington mentioned the tremors in phone calls to colleagues in New York, and seconds later, the shaking reached there, too.

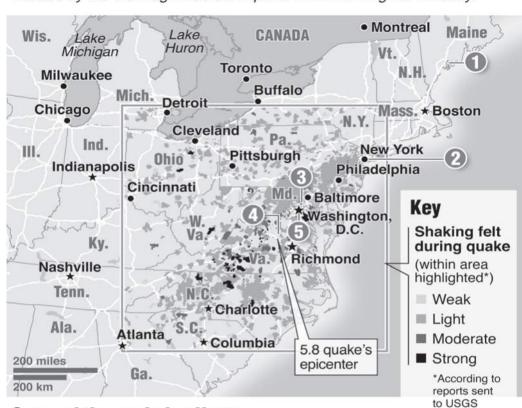
"We thought it was a bomb at first because everyone has 9/11 on the brain and that it's so close to September and the 10th anniversary," said Cathy McDonald, who works in an IRS office in downtown Washington.

Hundreds of people spilled out of the federal courthouse blocks from ground zero after the quake struck just before 2 p.m. EDT. Workers in the Empire State Building rushed into the streets, some having descended dozens of flights of stairs.

"I thought we'd been hit by an airplane," said one worker, Marty Wiesner.

Adrian Ollivierre, an accountant who was in his office on the 60th floor when the shaking began, said: "I thought I was having maybe a heart attack, and I

Reports came in from from people all over the East who felt the shaking caused by the 5.8 magnitude earthquake in central Virginia Tuesday.



Some of the quake's effects

1. Shaking felt as far north as Bath, Maine, as far south as Georgia

2. New 3. Amtrak runs Yorkers trains at reduced speed between stream Baltimore and out of offices Washington, D.C.

Nuclear reactors near epicenter automatically taken off line

National Cathedral damaged; pipes break at Pentagon

Source: ESRI, USGS, McClatchy Washington Bureau, AP, Reuters, Graphic: Robert Dorrell © 2011 MCT

saw everybody running. I think what it is, is the paranoia that happens from 9/11, and that's why I'm still out here-because, I'm sorry, I'm not playing with my life.'

The quake was felt as far north as Toronto, as far west as Indiana and Kentucky and as far south as Atlanta and Savannah, Ga. It was also felt on Martha's Vineyard off Massachusetts, where President Barack Obama, who is vacationing there, was getting ready to tee off in a round of golf.

The White House said there were no reports of major damage to the nation's infrastructure, including airports and nuclear facilities. Two nuclear reactors at the North Anna Power Station in Virginia were automatically taken off line by safety systems, said Roger Hannah, a spokesman for the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission. The plant is in the same county as the quake's epicenter, about 80 miles southwest of Washington and 40 miles northwest of Richmond, Va.

The Park Service closed all monuments and memorials on the National Mall, and ceiling tiles fell at Reagan National Airport outside Washington. Many nonessential workers in Washington were sent home for the day. The Capitol was reopened by late afternoon for people to retrieve their things.

At the Pentagon, a low rumbling built until the building itself was shaking, and people ran into the corridors of the complex. The shaking continued, to shouts of "Evacuate! "The main damage to the building, the largest single workspace for the federal government, came from a broken water pipe.

The National Cathedral said it had sustained "significant damage," with three capstones, each shaped like a fleur-de-lis, breaking off the main tower. Cracks appeared in the flying buttresses around the apse at the cathedral's east end, the oldest part of the building.

"Everyone here is safe," the cathedral said on its official Twitter feed. "Please pray for the Cathedral as there has been some damage."

Around Mineral, Va., a small town close to the epicenter, people milled around in their

Debris covers the isle at the Miller's mart food store in Mineral. Va...

Tuesday, Aug. 23, 2011. A magnitude 5.8 earthquake hit the area which was felt up and down the east coast.

lawns, on sidewalks and parking lots, still rattled and leery of re-entering buildings. All over town, masonry was crumpled, and there were stores with shelf contents strewn on the floor. Several display windows at businesses in the tiny heart of

downtown were broken and lay in jagged shards.

Carmen Bonano, who has a 1-year-old granddaughter, sat on the porch of her family's white-frame house, its twin brick chimneys destroyed. Her voice still quavered with fear.

ACROSS THE NATION

Irene weakens but remains big threat to US

MIAMI (AP)—Officials and residents from Florida to the Carolinas stocked up on supplies, dusted off evacuation plans and readied for the worst as Irene, the first hurricane to threaten the U.S. in three years, churned over tropical waters Tuesday after cutting a destructive path through the Caribbean. Federal officials warned the storm could flood streets and knock down power lines as far north as New England. Irene lost some of its punch Tuesday afternoon and was downgraded to a Category 1 hurricane as it lashed the Turks and Caicos Islands, mouth of her adopted Russian but the storm remains likely to regain strength and become a major hurricane before making a U.S. landfall.

Navy captain wishes he never made raunchy videos

NORFOLK, Va. (AP)—The former commander of a nuclear-powered aircraft carrier fighting to stay in the Navy says he wishes he never made a series of raunchy videos that he broadcast aboard the USS Enterprise. Capt. Owen P. Honors made his first public comments about the videos to a Navy board of inquiry Tues-

day. Honors was relieved of his command in January after media reports about the videos surfaced shortly before a scheduled deployment. The videos included simulated same-sex shower scenes, antigay slurs and references to prostitution in foreign ports. They were made when he was the ship's executive officer between 2005 and 2007.

Woman convicted of child abuse in hot sauce case

ANCHORAGE, (AP)—An Alaska woman was convicted Tuesday of misdemeanor child abuse after squirting hot sauce into the son as punishment in what prosecutors said was a ploy to get on the "Dr. Phil" TV show. Prosecutors also said defendant Jessica Beagley, 36, of Anchorage made the 7-yearold boy stand in a cold shower when he misbehaved. Both actions were recorded on videotape. Neither Beagley nor her husband Gary Beagley, an Anchorage police officer, showed any emotion when the sevenperson jury announced its decision. The couple walked quickly from the courtroom and down a set of stairs without responding to questions from reporters.

Strauss-Kahn free after NY courts let DA drop case

NEW YORK (AP)—Dominique Strauss-Kahn became a free man Tuesday when a judge ended the sexual assault case against him at the request of prosecutors, who said the hotel maid who accused the former International Monetary Fund chief couldn't be trusted.

Though evidence showed Strauss-Kahn had a sexual encounter with Nafissatou Diallo in his hotel suite more than three months ago, prosecutors said the accuser was not credible because of lies she has told, including an earlier false rape claim.

State Supreme Court Justice Michael Obus said he would dismiss the case, but there was one more legal twist to get through: He first wanted an appeals court to hear a request from Diallo's attorneys to keep the case alive by appointing a special prosecutor. The criminal case ended about two hours later, when the higher court agreed with Obus that there was no legal basis for removing the district attorney from the case.

The case drew global attention and left both the accuser and the accused—a one-time contender for the French presidency—with tattered reputations.

Strauss-Kahn arrived at court in a six-car motorcade and was greeted by protesters wielding signs carrying such messages as "DSK treats women like property" and "Put the rapist on trial-not the victim." The shouting could be heard inside the courtroom.

He appeared resolute inside. He smiled and shook hands with his biographer as his wife, journalist Anne Sinclair, sat nearby.

The couple left court without speaking to reporters, but StraussKahn later issued a statement describing the case as "a nightmare for me and my family."

"I want to thank all the friends in France and in the United States who have believed in my innocence, and to the thousands of people who sent us their support personally and in writing. I am most deeply grateful to my wife and family who have gone through this ordeal with me," he said.

"We will have nothing further to say about this matter and we look forward to returning to our home and resuming something of a more normal life."

THURSDAY, AUGUST 25, 2011 **15** SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Asia

Biden lauds Japan's resolve in tsunami zone visit

SENDAI, Japan (AP)—U.S. Vice President Joe Biden on Tuesday praised the resolve of the Japanese people in their efforts to recover from the tsunami and reaffirmed the two countries' alliance as vital for regional peace and prosperity.

In a speech at Sendai's airport, which American military personnel helped clear of debris after the tsunami, Biden spoke of the U.S. public's admiration of Japan after the March 11 disaster, which left about 20,000 people dead or missing and ravaged hundreds of miles (kilometers) of

"The disaster met its match in the legendary industriousness and relentless perseverance of the Japanese people," he said.

Biden, who also visited China and Mongolia during his eight-day Asian trip, stressed the strong economic and military ties between Japan and the U.S., calling their security alliance the "foundation of this region's security and prosperity for over half a century."

Under the pact, nearly 50,000 American troops are stationed in Japan, many of whom participated in a humanitarian relief mission called "Operation Tomodachi," or Operation Friend, after March's threefold disaster—earthquake, tsunami and nuclear crisis.

Biden's visit comes as China's rising economic, military and political clout somewhat overshadows Japan, which is

ASIAN BRIEFS

Japan likely to replace

week

unpopular PM Kan next

TOKYO (AP)—A former for-

eign minister announced his can-

didacy to lead Japan on Tuesday

just hours after unpopular Prime

Minister Naoto Kan said he

would be out of the picture by

early next week. Kan has been

criticized for lacking leadership

after the March 11 earthquake

and tsunami and subsequent nu-

clear crisis, and survivors of the

disasters complain of slow relief

and recovery efforts. Polls show

his approval rating is below 20

percent. Former Foreign Minis-

ter Seiji Maehara said Tuesday

night he wants to take over the

leadership to restore public trust

wrestling with a two-decade economic slump, a bulging deficit and aging population and now recovery from catastrophe. In his first trip to Asia as vice president, Biden spent five days in China, but will be in Japan only two.

Still, he stressed Japan's importance to U.S. interests in the region.

"The United States is and will remain a Pacific power. America's focus on this critical region will only grow in the years to come as Asia plays an ever-increasing role in the global economy and international affairs," he said. "The anchor of that relationship will be Japan."

Biden laid flowers at the site of a destroyed home not far from the airport and visited evacuees living in temporary housing, where he chatted, shook hands and handed out baseball caps.

Earlier Tuesday, he met with Prime Minister Naoto Kan, who thanked him for the "enormous assistance" from the U.S. after the disaster. Kan said the vice president's trip demonstrates that "Japan is open for business."

Biden told Kan that the American public was impressed with the stoicism and courage of the Japanese people, calling it a model for the whole world.

Kan is widely expected to resign in coming weeks or even days over his administration's perceived lack of leadership in

Islamic Liberation Front insisted on a substate for minority Muslims, chief government negotiator Marvic Leonen told reporters in a video conference from Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, where the talks were held. The government position omitted the word "substate" because that would require a change in the Philippine Constitution, Leonen said.

Filipino engineer escapes from Libyan rebels

MANILA, **Philippines**

(AP)—A Filipino engineer in Libya escaped from rebel captivity after gunmen forcibly entered and ransacked a house he shared with colleagues and took him away, a Philippine official said Wednesday. The man, who was reported Monday as just missing, was taken by the rebels with them when they left the house, said Foreign Affairs Department spokesman Raul Hernandez. The man called his wife in the Philippines on Tuesday to say he was able to escape unharmed and had made his way to a friend's house in Tripoli, Hernandez said.



handling the triple crisis.

Referring to the natural disaster in Japan and budget problems in the U.S., Biden told Kan that "there are voices in the world who are counting us out. They are making a very bad bet."

During his time in China, Biden had extensive time with the country's expected future leader, Xi Jinping, and delivered a strong message of the interdependence between the U.S. and China, the world's two biggest economies.

Biden also made the case for continued U.S. economic vitality despite current budget woes and sought to reassure China's leaders and ordinary citizens about the safety of their assets in the United States following the downgrading of America's credit rating.

On Wednesday, Biden plans to visit a U.S. air force base west of Tokyo to thank military and civilian personnel for helping with relief and recovery efforts after the disaster.

U.S. Vice President Joe Biden hugs one of the March 11 earthquake and tsunami survivors at a make-shift housing complex in Natori, one of the hardest tsunami stricken city, northeastern Japan, Tuesday, Aug. 23, 2011.

Philippines' Aquino: No apology for hostage deaths

MANILA, Philippines (AP)— The Philippine president expressed "deep regret" Tuesday for the deaths of eight Hong Kong hostages in a botched police rescue last year but rejected the families' call for a formal apology.

President Benigno Aquino III said the lone gunman and not the state is to be blamed for the tragedy. He compared the incident to last month's attack by a "deranged gunman" who killed 77 people in Norway.

He told reporters on the anniversary of the hostage-taking that an apology connotes that the state harmed the tourists, which he said was not correct.

The tourists were taken captive on their bus by a fired policeman fighting for reinstatement. Hours of unsuccessful negotiations turned bloody when he opened fire, prompting police to chaotically storm the bus. The gunman was killed by a police sniper.

A Hong Kong inquest earlier this year concluded that Philippine officials contributed to or caused the deaths of the tourists. Philippine Interior Secretary Jesse Robredo has said that police fire did not kill any of the hostages.

No one has been charged criminally for lapses in the police operation and only one official has been fired.

This was the act of one man, in the same token that some of us citizens have been affected elsewhere in the world, we do not blame the entire population," Aquino said Tuesday.

Tearful relatives and a survivor offered flowers and lit incense at the downtown Manila park where the 11-hour drama unfolded on live television the year before. Buddhist monks chanted prayers while local anti-crime activists carried a white cross bearing the names of the victims.

with them," said Aquino, who the botched rescue.

did not attend the commemoration. "We really wish it did not happen."

He acknowledged that rescuers could have performed better, but said any police force would face serious limitations in responding to a gunman who suddenly changed his negotiating position.

In a meeting Monday with the relatives and a Hong Kong legislator, Justice Secretary Leila de Lima promised to relay to Aquino their demands for compensation and a formal apology, as well as the filing of criminal charges against police "We continue to sympathize and other officials involved in

hai government lays out policies to boost economy

BANGKOK (AP)—Thailand's new prime minister said Tuesday that during its first 12 months in office her government will concentrate on promoting economic stability and reconciliation after years of political polarization.

First-year policies will also focus on cracking down on drugs, fighting corruption and peace building in the insurgency-plagued south, Yingluck Shinawatra said in her first policy statement to Parliament.

Thailand's first female premier, who was elected in early July, said the government would strengthen the nation's domestic economy, which has grown at only modest rates since the 2006 coup that deposed her brother Thaksin Shinawatra, as chronic political instability depressed consumer and business confidence.

Yingluck also said her government would work toward "a more balanced economic structure," appealing to the masses of rural voters who supported her Pheu Thai party in hopes of a better distribution of wealth in the country of 68 million.

During its first year, her government will sharply increase the minimum wage, give tax exemptions to people buying their and public debt, he said. first home and car, and give tablet computers to primary school students, she said.

Critics said the policies were not sustainable and aimed at securing political support rather than dealing with pressing economic issues.

"These populist policies are benefiting the groups who are the support base of the government," said Somchai Phagaphasvivat, a political science lecturer at Bangkok's Thammasat University.

In the long-term, they could lead to inflation, budget deficits

In an effort to promote political reconciliation, Yingluck said her government plans to pay reparations to the people hurt by the political violence that has gripped the country off and on since before the military overthrew Thaksin in September 2006.

The political divide left Bangkok a battleground for two months last year as anti-government demonstrations by former Prime Minister Thaksin's supporters deteriorated into violence, leaving 91 people dead and more than 1,400 injured.

Muslim rebels reject Philippine peace proposal

(AP)—The Philippines' largest Muslim rebel group rejected a government proposal for autonomy in the country's south as inadequate but said Tuesday they will continue talks. Representatives from the Moro

and hope, especially among disaster victims. MANILA, **Philippines** 16 THURSDAY, AUGUST 25, 2011 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

World

Libyan rebels storm the seat of Gadhafi's power

TRIPOLI, Libya (AP)—Hundreds of Libyan rebels stormed Moammar Gadhafi's compound Tuesday, charging wildly through the symbolic heart of the crumbling regime as they killed loyalist troops, looted armories and knocked the head off a statue of the besieged dictator. But they found no sign of the man himself.

The storming of Bab al-Aziziya, long the nexus of Gadhafi's power, marked the effective collapse of his 42-year-old regime. But with Gadhafi and his powerful sons still unaccounted for—and gunbattles flaring across the nervous city—the fighters cannot declare victory.

The rebel force entered the compound after fighting for five hours with Gadhafi loyalists outside, using mortars, heavy machine guns and anti-aircraft guns. They beat and killed some of those who defended the compound and hauled away crates of weapons and trucks with guns mounted on the back in a frenzy of looting.

"We're looking for Gadhafi now. We have to find him now," said Sohaib Nefati, a rebel sitting against a wall with a Kalashnikov rifle.

Abdel-Aziz Shafiya, a 19-year-old rebel dressed in camouflage with an rocket-propelled grenade slung over one shoulder and a Kalashnikov over another, said the rebels believe Gadhafi is inside the compound but hiding underground.

"Wasn't he the one who called us rats? Now he is the rat underground," he said.

Shafiya said he felt "an explosion of joy" to be standing inside Gadhafi's stronghold in the capital after a lightning-quick rebel advance. He had left the rebel-held western city of Misrata just two days earlier.

"I lost friends and relatives and now I can walk into Gadhafi's house," Shafiya said. "Many of my friends have died and now all of that meant something."

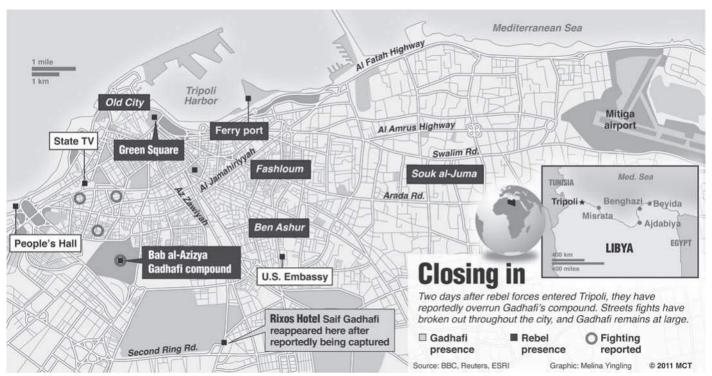
Associated Press reporters inside the compound said parts of it appeared to still be under

control of government forces who were firing toward the rebels, making for an atmosphere of joyful celebration mixed with tension. The air was thick with smoke from the battles and the sound of crackling gunfire was constant. Rebels chanted "Allahu Akbar" or "God is Great" and on loudspeakers they cried: "Hamdullah, hamdullah" or "Thank God."

As the fighters stormed in, they captured a guard at the

► Libyans holding a huge flag celebrate overrunning the main Maammar Gadhafi's compound Bab al-Aziziya in Tripoli, Libya, early Wednesday, Aug. 24, 2011. AP





Libya's deadliest weapons not yet corralled

WASHINGTON (AP)—No one can be sure who controls the Libyan government's weapons stockpiles, a stew of deadly chemicals, raw nuclear material and some 30,000 shoulder-fired rockets that officials fear could fall into terrorists' hands in the chaos of Moammar Gadhafi's downfall or afterward.

One immediate worry, U.S. intelligence and military officials say, is that Gadhafi might use the weapons to make a last

stand. But officials also face the troubling prospect that the material, which was left under Gadhafi's control by a U.S.backed disarmament pact, could be obtained by al-Qaida or other militants even after a rebel victory is secured.

The main stockpile of mustard gas and other chemicals, stored in corroding drums, is at a site southeast of Tripoli. Mustard gas can cause severe blistering and death. A cache of hundreds of tons of raw ura-

nium yellowcake is stored at a small nuclear facility east of the capital.

Weapons demolition teams hired by the State Department have located and destroyed some of the anti-aircraft rocket systems in rebel-held parts of the country.

U.S. and allied officials say chemical and nuclear stockpiles appear to be still under the control of what's left of the Libyan government despite rebel military advances into the capital. That may or may not be reassuring. It depends on whether Gadhafi loyalists, increasingly desperate, adhere to international agreements not to use or move the material.

The State Department has also sent experts to Libya to confer with rebel leaders and Libya's neighbors about abiding by those same compacts and beefing up border security to prevent weapons from being smuggled out.

gates and threw him to the ground, slamming rifle butts into his back. A hostile crowd gathered around, punching and kicking him until one rebel stepped in, stood over him and kept the crowd at bay. Inside the walls, a few bodies of Gadhafi fighters—one with a gaping head wound from a gunshot—were sprawled on the ground.

Several young men wrenched the head from a statue of Gadhafi and kicked it around. One lifted it above his head while his jubilant comrades danced and yelled around him. Fighters with long beards hugged each other and flashed the "V" for victory sign. Others carried injured rebels to ambulances.

A fighter climbed atop the iconic statue of a huge golden fist clenching a model of an American warplane and shot his machine gun in the air in celebration. The statue stands outside a building that was once Gadhafi's home, preserved with the pockmarks of an American bombing in 1986 as a symbol of his defiance.

Gadhafi delivered many a fiery speech from the balcony of that house, railing against the West. It was there that he appeared on television six months ago, at the beginning of the uprising, and mocked his opponents.

Bab al-Aziziya has since been pummeled many times over by NATO bombings in the air campaign against the regime that began in March.

Thousands of rebels converged on the compound after it was breached, snatching ammunition and arms from depots inside. They found brandnew rifles still in their paper wrappings.

Scuffles broke out among rebels pushing and shoving to get inside two white buildings where the rifles, machine guns and handguns are stored. They came out drenched in sweat from the struggles.

Ali Sameer, a Tripoli resident, stood with three brand new rifles resting on his legs.

"They are for my friends. I don't even know how to fight," he said.

WORLD BRIEFS

Medvedev reportedly in for summit with Kim Jong Il

MOSCOW (AP)—Russian President Dmitry Medvedev reportedly arrived Wednesday in remote eastern Siberia for a summit with North Korean leader Kim Jong II expected to focus on energy deals, economic aid and nuclear disarmament. Kim has been rolling across eastern Russia aboard his special armored train in a trip that began Saturday. It is

his first visit to North Korea's Cold War ally since 2002. His train arrived Tuesday in Ulan-Ude, the capital of Buryatia, a Buddhist province near Lake Baikal. Medvedev arrived Wednesday morning at an army base on the outskirts of Ulan-Ude for a meeting with Kim later in the day, South Korea's Yonhap news agency reported, citing unidentified sources in Ulan-Ude. Kim, however, had yet to show up at the meeting venue, Yonhap said.

Chile faces 2-day shutdown over 'utopian' demands

SANTIAGO, Chile (AP)—Chile is bracing for a nation-wide, two-day shutdown as unions, students and center-left political parties demand fundamental changes in society. They want to replace Chile's dictatorship-era constitution, which concentrates vast power in the presidency, with a new charter enabling popular referendums and

making free quality education a right for all citizens. They also want pension reforms, a new labor code and more health care spending. Chile's largest union coalition called the strike for Wednesday and Thursday to join forces with the high school and university students boycotting classes for three months now. They have support from the center-left coalition that governed Chile for 20 years before President Sebastian Pinera brought the

right wing back into the presidential palace last year.

Syria opposition tries to unite, divisions remain

BEIRUT (AP)—Syria's fragmented opposition took steps toward forming a national council Tuesday, but serious divisions and mistrust among the members prevented them from presenting a unified front against President Bashar Assad's regime more than five

months into the country's uprising, participants said. Syria's opposition, fragmented by years of sectarian and ideological tensions, has made unprecedented gains against the regime, but there is no clear leadership or platform beyond the demands for more freedom and for Assad to step down. With Assad's forces cracking down on the protests, the overall death toll has reached 2,200, the United Nations said this week.

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Focus

EAST VS. WEST QUAKES: Way different creatures

By SETH BORENSTEIN and ALICIA CHANG

ASHINGTON (AP)— The East Coast doesn't get earthquakes often but when they do strike, there's a whole lot more shaking going on. The ground in the East is older, colder and more intact than the West Coast or the famous Pacific Ring of Fire. So East Coast quakes rattle an area up to 10 times larger than a similar-sized West Coast temblor.

"They tend to be more bang for the buck as far as shaking goes," said Virginia Tech geology professor James Spotila.

Tuesday's 5.8-magnitude quake was centered in Virginia and was felt up and down the Eastern seaboard for more than 1,000 miles. There hasn't been a quake that large on the East Coast since 1944 in New York.

While this was a rarity for the East, a 5.8 quake isn't unusual for California, Oregon, Washington and Alaska, where one occurs about once a year. Those states have had 103 quakes 5.8 or bigger since 1900, compared to now two in the East.

The tiny island of Trinidad is more quake-prone than the East Coast, said U.S. Geological Survey seismologist Paul Earle.

"In all the years I was at FEMA, there didn't seem to be a concern for earthquakes on the East Coast," former Federal Emergency Management Agency chief James Lee Witt said.

Because of geology, earthquakes on the coasts have different triggers and act differently in some ways. And they definitely are felt differently.

One glaring East versus West disparity: When a quake happens in California, geologists usually know what fault ruptured. Tuesday's quake happened on an unknown fault, and it is likely to remain a mystery.

Because the quake didn't break the surface "we may never actually map this fault from this earthquake," Earle said.

LOS ANGELES (AP)—

The only thing that will help scientists figure out where the break truly occurred are the aftershocks which could help highlight or outline the fault line, said Cornell University seismologist Rowena

Most of the times, quakes occur when Earth's floating giant plates shift, rub against or slip past each other. That's what happens along California's San Andreas fault when quakes happen there.

Tuesday's thrust earthquake was far from the edge of a plate—the nearest are thousands of miles away in the mid-Atlantic or California, said seismologist David Applegate, associate director of natural hazards for the USGS in Reston, Va.

The stresses that cause these kinds of quakes come from far away and mount ever so slowly over time, even building up from the retreat of glaciers at the end of the Ice Age, he said.

Another East versus West contrast: The ground is different in the East in a way that makes the shaking travel much further, allowing people to feel the quake several states and hundreds of miles away.

The rocks in the Earth's crust in the East are colder, older and harder, which means seismic waves travel more efficiently and over greater distances. Rocks on the West Coast are relatively young and broken up by faults.

"An intact bell rings more loudly than a cracked bell and that's essentially what the crust is on the East Coast," USGS seismologist Lucy Jones told a news conference in Pasadena, Calif.

In the East, hurricanes are the worry far more than quakes. Former FEMA chief Witt said people on the West Coast know what to do in an earthquake: drop to the floor, cover their heads and hold on to something sturdy until the shaking stops.

That's what USGS's Applegate did in Virginia.

"It's seared in our heads," said USGS seismologist Susan Hough in Pasadena. "People back East don't get that kind of preparedness message."



Soon after the lunch plates stopped rattling and books stopped thumping to the floor, shaken easterners could hear another sound from Tuesday's

ering emanating from the opposite side of the continent. "Really all this excitement over a 5.8 quake??? Come on East Coast, we have those for breakfast out here!!!!" wrote Dennis Miller, 50, a lifelong California resident whose

magnitude-5.8 quake: snick-

earthquake fault line. On Twitter and Facebook and over email, people circulated a photo of a table and four plastic lawn chairs in a serene garden setting. One of the chairs flipped on its back. The mock image carried the title

house in Pleasanton sits on an

"DC Earthquake Devastation."

some were the images of people the country. fleeing buildings—the exact opposite of what you're supposed to do in a quake.

"Hey East Coast, the entire West Coast is mocking you right now," tweeted Todd Walker, an Anchorage TV anchorman. The tough earthquake talk comes from a coast that is apparently jaded by its own seismic activity-or perhaps not as experienced as it imagines itself to be.

Tuesday's quake was the East Coast's largest since 1944. California alone has seen 35 quakes of that size since then.

The flippancy partly disguises how serious the quakes are

taken in California, Alaska and who lives in Washington, D.C., All the more laughable for other earthquake-prone parts of has lived through an earthquake living with the ongoing specter

Many West Coast residents are trained to dive under desks and tables when the shaking starts and there is a recognition that temblors of similar size to the one that hit Virginia have caused deaths and millions of dollars of damage here.

Despite the frequency of middling temblors, many people haven't experienced a truly earth-shaking quake. The last major metropolitan-scale disaster was all the way back in 1994, when the magnitude-6.7 Northridge quake ravaged greater Los Angeles.

Joanne Razo, a legal assistant

in Los Angeles and said she of catastrophe is this sense of knows that a 5.8-quake is mild by West Coast standards. But for her, the scary part was not the ground shaking but that "this area is not equipped to handle anything like this.

Andrew Lakoff, a University of Southern California anthropology and sociology professor who studies cultural responses to disasters, said West Coasters seemed to be reacting to scenes of East Coasters losing their cool over the quake. In California, where there is firsthand knowledge of what large quakes look like, something magnitude-5.9 is a relatively minor threat.

"A perverse consequence of pride," he said.

Marcus Beer, a video game critic who moved to Los Angeles in 2002 after growing up in the seismically stable British nation of Wales, said he didn't unleash his own smart-alecky tweet about the quake until he saw that it hadn't caused any major damage or harm.

He said he was amused by how much media attention was being seized by a quake of a size that barring serious damage—would prompt little more than a few nervous chuckles on the West Coast.

"For me, it was just ironic that the major news centers be-

ing based on the East Coast finally got hit by what we consider a temblor and it's, 'Oh my God!" Beer said. "We get those all the time, and we're so used to them."

Some East Coasters seemed to understand the eve-rolling from the West Coast. On Foursquare, a service that lets people tell others where they've been, users all over the East Coast checked in to madeup locations such as "Earthquakepocalypse," just as they checked in to "Snowpocalypse" during winter storms.

Sarah Atkinson, a manager for a marketing firm in San Jose, was unimpressed by all the excitement.

"5.9? That's what us Californians use to stir our coffee with," she tweeted.

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Environment

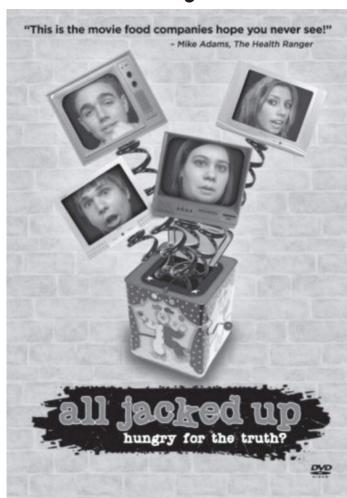
Find out what exactly is in the stuff that you eat replace your broken appliances

Ever wondered what exactly is in the stuff that you eat? Find out as First Friday Films presents All Jacked Up. Bring your friends and family to the American Memorial Park Visitors Center by 6:30pm on Friday, Sept. 2, to see just how jacked up some of the food we are served is. The film highlights the dangerous trends in present-day eating habits and unveils the unsavory practices that put the health of a whole generation at risk.

With a mix of drama and comedy, Jennifer Mattox creates a film that highlights the direct connection between what the youth eat and how they act and feel. Four ordinary teenagers realize how media, society, family dynamics, and the food industry affected their diet. Guided by experts and supported by their peers, they embark on a "journev of discovery" to find a way to stop their unhealthy lifestyle before it is too late.

Hungry for more information about the film? Visit www.firstfridayfilmssaipan.blogspot.com. Subscribe to the blog for regular updates on upcoming events.

As always, First Friday Films is free and open to the public. (DEQ)



We all ditch appliances that still have a lot of life left in them; repairing them is easier on our wallet and on our planet.

In Loving Memory of †Marian Sablan Santos Lovingly known as "Erang" August 05, 1966 - August 18, 2011 At the age of 45 In Her life, she now joins her: Father: Antonio Naputi Santos (Chungi) **Mother:** Rosario Sablan Santos (Zing) Ricardo Sablan Santos Francisca Santos DeLeon Guerrero Rosalina Santos Camacho She will be greatly missed by her brothers, sisters and in-laws: †Ricardo S. /Dolores A. Santos (Richard, Robert, Ray, Renee, Reynold, Timmy) †Francisca S./ Lorenzo A. DeLeon Guerrero (William/ Sabina, Patrick/Fave, Lawrence/ Paulette, Roselle) Henry S./ Soledad Santos (Jean Marie, Frances) Antonio S. / Lydia S. Santos (John, Lorraine, Dean Rosco, Sherlyn) Herman S. / Belen Santos (Hermanny, Claudia/ Melvin, Esperlyn/ Koko) David S. / Virginia S. Santos (Victor/ Vangie, Gina Dee, Davilyn/ Anthony, Verlyn) Lillian S. / Wilfredo Villagracia (Kuniwo, Jonathan, Ishidoro, Lheianah) Norman S. / Rosalia A. Santos Albert S. / Zerah DLC Santos (Aldebert, Zelma/ Peter, Albert Jr. †Rosaline S. /Francisco SN Camacho (Rosalie, Roxanne/ Josh, Frankie/Jeralyn, Ruby Jean) Alicia S. / Jesse Alerta (April, Abriann, Joshua, Jermaine, Joel, Jesse, Jr., Jared) She will also be missed by her reared brother and sister: Iesus Malus Claudia P. Santos/ Melvin Tudela (Regino III, Claude, Kaitani, Melvin, John and Anton) Antonio S. and Elphidia P. Camacho Rosa S. Pangelinan She is additionally survived by numerous nieces, nephews and cousins. Mass of Intention is being celebrated each evening at San Vicente Church at 6:00pm followed by Holy Rosary. Funeral Services will be held on Friday, August 26, 2011. Her remains will be escorted from Nuestra Senora dela Paz Memorial Chapel at 10:00am to Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Cathedral. Mass of Christian Burial will celebrated at 1:00pm. Interment Service will follow at Chalan Kanoa Cemetery. Thank You and Si Yuus Maase Please Join Us In Prayers, The Family

By TERRI BENNETT

We never seem to realize our dependence on our appliances until one of them suddenly stops working. It could be that one day the microwave quits heating, or we catch on to the fact that our refrigerator isn't quite keeping our foods cold enough, or in my case, a dishwasher that indicates the dishes are clean even though food is still stuck to them. Yes, there's nothing appetizing about a dishwasher that's not doing its job—especially with two kids at home. I dreaded the thought of going dishwasher shopping and shelling out money I hadn't budgeted. However, it took me just a few minutes to find out that my dishwasher's problem could be

fixed for just a few dollars. Well, it wasn't quite that simple at first. That's why I want to share my experience with you—so you can avoid some of the same headaches. At first, a repairman told me I needed a new electronic control panel, which would cost hundreds of dollars. Two displays later and the dishwasher still didn't work. In the end, it turned out to be a small piece of calcified tubing that was simple to replace and extremely cheap.

So, it got me to thinking about how often we all ditch appliances that still have a lot of life left



We all ditch appliances that still have a lot of life left in them; repairing them is easier on our wallet and on our planet.

in them when repairing them is easier on our wallet and on our planet. In fact, dishwashers should last around 10 years. It's the same for microwaves and washing machines. Clothes dryers and full-size refrigerators have a life expectancy around 13 years. The best rule of thumb when it comes to these appliances is to fix it unless it's already well past its life expectancy.

Tackling these projects yourself is easier than ever even if you don't consider yourself handy. There's a 'Virtual Repairman'

tool on PartSelect.com that not only helps you figure out what's wrong, it shows you what vou'll need to make the fix and step-by-step instructions. You can find quick links to these pages at DoYourPart. com/columns.

Of course, it's important to point out that doing a little maintenance on your appliances will help keep them running longer. Cleaning the coils underneath the fridge and replacing the sealing on the doors helps. For dishwashers, making sure food traps are kept clean is important. And, clothes dry-

ers benefit from periodic cleaning of the vent line all the way to the exterior of your home.

If one day you do decide that you need to upgrade your appliance, choose an energy efficient model and be sure to responsibly recycle your old one. Many contain valuable components that should never be dumped in a landfill. Earth911.com will help you find appliance-recycling resources near you. Do Your Part when making decisions about your appliances because sometimes a little elbow grease can make all the difference in the world.

Top 5 ways chemicals sneak into your home

By TERRI BENNETT

We bring dangerous chemicals into our homes every day. It could be from our shoes, new furniture, or even our vinyl shower curtain. Here are my Top 5 Ways Chemicals Sneak Into Your Home and the solutions you need to Do Your Part to make a healthier home and a

healthier planet. (1) CHEMICAL CLEAN-ERS: A common way potentially toxic chemicals get inside is from chemical-based label. Some of those ingredients can pollute the air inside our homes and possibly cause all sorts of health problems such as asthma, allergies and reproductive issues. Instead buy or make non-toxic cleaners with baking soda, white vinegar, Borax, citrus juice and oxygenated bleach.

(2) FURNITURE FLOORING: Furniture made from medium density fiberboard can contain a formaldehyde-based resin. And, many popular choices of flooring emit formaldehyde. At elevated levels, formal-

dehyde can irritate eyes and cause breathing problems. Seek out furniture and flooring products labeled formaldehyde-free. Buying used, wood furniture pieces are also a good bet because any dangerous chemicals have already evaporated.

(3) SHOES & PAWS: When you think about all the things you trek into your home with your shoes it can be downright disgusting! The same can be said for what's on your pet's paws. It's not only dirt but also residue from lawn chemicals, cleaners. Their ingredients are automotive fluids and pestinot even required to be on the cides. If you have young children in the home, they can easily be exposed to these toxins on the floor. The easiest solution is to simply leave your shoes at the door. Having a large mat near the entrance is a smart idea too. Wipe your pet's paws when they come inside after lawn treatments.

> (4) PROBLEMATIC PLAS-TICS: Polyvinyl chloride—or PVC—is a soft plastic used to make vinyl shower curtains, children's toys and food containers. Plasticizers used in PVC are suspected of contributing to reproductive defects, premature births and impaired neurologi

cal development. Avoid plastics labeled with a #3 on the bottom. This identifies it as PVC. Choose vinyl products labeled PVC-free.

(5) DRY CLEANING: If you bring home clothing from a traditional dry cleaner, you're bringing in dangerous chemicals that can cause anything from headaches and breathing problems to liver and kidney damage. That's because 80 percent of American dry cleaners use perchloroethylene (perc). Perc is a manmade compound that pollutes our homes, air, land and water. Seek out perc-free cleaners. If there isn't a green cleaner near you, unwrap you're clothes once you're home and let them air out.

In small doses, these chemicals aren't dangerous but persistent or elevated levels of these chemicals in our homes can pollute the air we breath. Do Your Part and make smarter choices for you and the planet.

Terri Bennett is a veteran TV meteorologist, syndicated columnist, and host of DoYourPart. com where you can find everyday green living ideas that are better for you and the planet. Send questions to terri@doyourpart.com.

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Life & Style

Could Dior be homing in on a new designer?

VIENNA (AP)—The fashion world is abuzz over the possibility that U.S.-born designer Marc Jacobs might take over as creative director of Dior.

The label, widely considered the jewel in the crown of French fashion, has been floundering for nearly six months, since its

longtime creative director John Galliano was summarily sacked over allegations he made anti-Semitic remarks.

Jacobs is among the top tier of designers worldwide, adored by critics and consumers for his signature label and for his work for Louis Vuitton—the coveted

'Girls Gone Wild' creator charged for alleged attack against woman

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Prosecutors have charged "Girls Gone Wild" creator Joseph Francis with assault, false imprisonment and other misdemeanor crimes for allegedly attacking a woman he met at a Hollywood club, but the businessman said he has witnesses and evidence that will exonerate him.

The charges filed against Francis and his bodyguard stem from an alleged January altercation that began when three women got into his limousine outside a popular nightspot.

Prosecutors claim the women thought they were being driven to their car but were taken to Francis' gated home, where a struggle ensued and he allegedly slammed one woman's head on a tile floor.

He faces to five years in jail if convicted, but Francis said in a phone interview Tuesday that he is innocent.

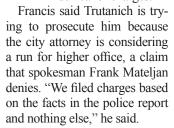
He said he has eight eyewitnesses who will testify on his possible candidate.

behalf and security footage from three cameras.

"This did not happen," he

He claimed that police and the district attorney's office rejected filing charges against him, but that City Attorney Carmen Trutanich is pursuing the case for political reasons.

District Attorney's spokeswoman Jane Robison said county prosecutors declined to file felony charges against Francis in late July, but referred the case to Trutanich's office for possible misdemeanor charges.



Trutanich has not yet announced whether he will run for district attorney, but his name has been floated as a

Francis

tapped as MSNBC show host

Rev. Al Sharpton is officially

NEW YORK (AP)—After several weeks in a tryout role, the Rev. Al Sharpton has officially been named host of a weeknight hour on MSNBC.

The program, now called "PoliticsNation," will air at 6 p.m. Eastern and premieres next Monday, the network announced Tuesday.

In his new role, the well-known civil rights activist and minister will lead a lively and informed discussion of the day's top headlines, MSNBC said.

Sharpton called the Sharpton hosting job "a natural extension of my life work and growth."

Besides his work as a community leader and religious figure, Sharpton already hosts a nationally syndicated radio show. He was a candidate for the 2004 Democratic presidential nomination that eventually went to U.S. Sen. John Kerry of Massachusetts.

The 6 p.m. hour serves as an important lead-in to MSNBC's weeknight slate that includes Chris Matthews, Laurence O'Donnell, Rachel Maddow and Ed Schultz. The network has done a swift reconfiguration in prime time since the abrupt departure of its marquee host,

Keith Olbermann, in January. Olbermann took his show to Current TV.

In addition to being a guest on MS-NBC throughout the network's history, Sharpton has also served as an occa-

sional guest host on several of its programs.

"I've known Rev. Sharpton for over a decade and have tremendous respect for him," said MSNBC president Phil Griffin. "I'm thrilled that he's now reached a point in his career where he's able to devote himself to hosting a nightly show."

bag maker which is also owned by Dior parent company LVMH.

Fashion trade publication Women's Wear Daily on Monday cited anonymous sources as saying that Jacobs has been approached by LVMH management about a move to Dior and that the two parties were in talks about a possible deal.

The report said another critical and commercial darling, Phoebe Philo-designer at LVMH label Celine-could be tapped to replace Jacobs at Vuitton, if the deal goes through. Officials at Dior and Vuitton said they could not

confirm the negotiations.

Dana Thomas, a veteran fashion journalist and author of the industry expose "Deluxe: How

Luxury Lost Its Luster," said she found a possible Jacobs move plausible.

"This is about the safest move LVMH can do," Thomas said in an email to The Associated Press. "Everyone loves Marc.

He's boundlessly creative. He knows how to assemble and managed an excellent team. And he is resolutely modern."

From a commercial perspective, Jacobs' departure from Vuitton would likely have little impact because "fashion is such

> a small slice of Louis Vuitton's sales," Thomas said, adding, "Really, what folks want is that classic monogram bag."

> Jacobs is also seen as a solid choice in an industry where the mental and emo-

tional stability of designers has emerged as a concern following the 2010 suicide of British star Alexander McQueen and the Galliano case.

Galliano, in a Paris court appearance in June, blamed industry pressures and alcohol and prescription drug addictions for his outbursts, including one in which he is seen on video praising Adolf Hitler.

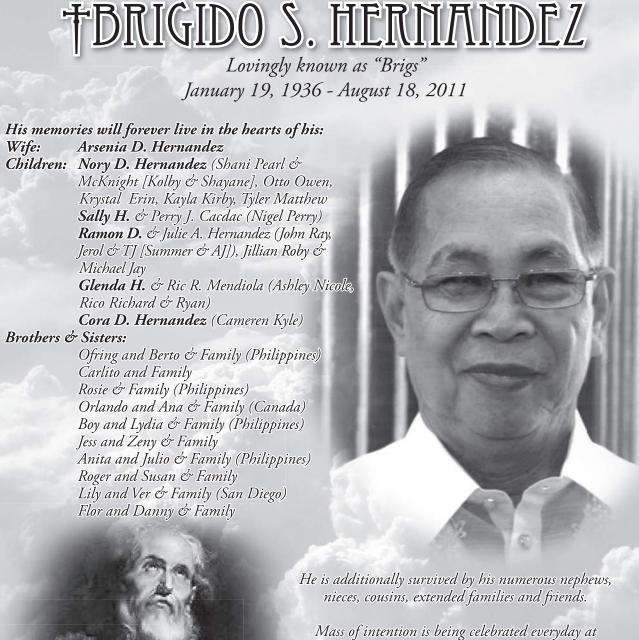
Jacobs has done a stint in rehab for addictions of his own, but is widely regarded as having overcome his substance problems.

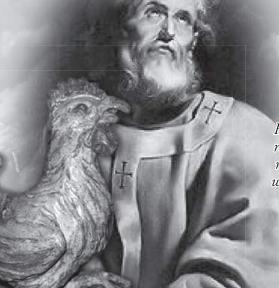
"Having worked with Marc for so long (at Vuitton,) LVMH knows what they are getting at Dior. No surprises, no drama," said Thomas.



TDRIGIDO S. HERMANDEZ

IN LOVING MEMORY OF





Kristo Rai Church at 6:00am until August 26, 2011.

Funeral Services will be held on Friday, August 26, 2011. His remains will be escorted from Nuestra Senora Dela Paz Memorial Chapel to Kristo Rai Church at 7:30am. Responso service will be at 8:00am followed by Holy Rosary at 8:15am. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:00am followed by interment service at Sanctuario Paz Memorial Gardens in Kagman, Saipan where he will be at a peaceful rest.

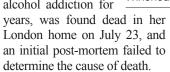
Please Join Us In Prayers

Sen D. Hernandez, Children and Families.

Tests show no illegal drugs in Amy Winehouse's body

LONDON (AP)—Amy Winehouse had no illegal drugs in her system when she died, and it is still unclear what killed the singer, her family said Tuesday. The family said in a statement

that toxicology tests showed "alcohol was present" in the singer's body but it hasn't yet been determined if it contributed to her death. The 27-yearold soul diva, who had battled drug and alcohol addiction for



Winehouse

A statement released by spokesman Chris Goodman on the family's behalf said "toxicology results returned to the Winehouse family by authorities have confirmed that there

Amy's system at the time of her death." The statement did not mention whether any legal drugs were found.

It said the family awaited the

outcome of an inquest that is due to begin in October.

Winehouse's father, Mitch, has said his daughter had beaten her drug dependency three years before her death, but he admitted she was

still struggling to control her drinking after several weeks of abstinence. Mitch Winehouse told mourners at the singer's July 26 funeral that she had said to him, "'Dad I've had enough of drinking, I can't stand the look on your and the family's faces anymore.""

The Winehouse family an-

charitable foundation in the singer's name to help people struggling with addiction although Mitch Winehouse has said the plans are on hold because someone else had registered the name Amy Winehouse Foundation.

In her short lifetime, Winehouse frequently made headlines because of drug and alcohol abuse, eating disorders, destructive relationships and abortive performances.

Her health often appeared fragile. In June 2008 and again in April 2010, she was taken to hospital and treated for injuries after fainting and falling at home.

Her father said she had developed the lung disease emphysema from smoking cigarettes and crack, although her spokeswoman later said Winehouse

were no illegal substances in nounced plans to establish a only had "early signs of what could lead to emphysema."

> She turned her tumultuous life and personal demons into songs such as "Rehab," from her Grammy-winning album "Back to Black."

Her death prompted an

fans—many of whom left flowers and offerings outside her house in north London's Camden neighborhood—and from fellow musicians.

Her final recording, a duet with Tony Bennett on "Body

outpouring of emotion from and Soul," is due to released next month as a charity single.

> In Britain, inquests are held to establish the facts whenever someone dies violently or in unexplained circumstances. Winehouse's inquest is due to begin Oct. 26 in London.

AP INTERVIEW

The accent's on Anne Hathaway

LONDON (AP)—Anne Hathaway felt the pressure to deliver the goods in her latest role.

The American actress brings David Nicholls' character of Emma Morely to the big screen in the adaptation of his book, "One Day."

Hathaway said as a book lover she understood the need to please fans of the best-selling novel.

"People feel so possessive over Emma and so it's not only that they want you to get her right, they really don't want you to get her wrong."

The director, Lone Scherfig—"An Education"—helped put her mind at rest, telling her that she had to concentrate on her own interpretation.

And then there is the accent. Morely is from the city of Leeds, in Yorkshire in northern England, so Brooklyn-born Hathaway had to learn a specific regional dialect for the role.

Critics have said Hathaway's attempt is distracting and unreliable.

The Oscar-nominee admitted that in preparing for the role she asked anyone she met from Yorkshire to speak to her, so she could learn the accent.

"One of the things I was struck by was that so often when people leave Yorkshire they don't hang on to the accent, the accent evens out and starts to mimic some new sounds from where they're from, so you can



miere of 'One Day', west London, Tuesday, Aug. 23, 2011.

have 10 people from Yorkshire and they have 10 completely utterly different accents. But I worked with a dialect coach and just kind of tried my best."

Unfortunately she couldn't rely on her director for guidance: Scherfig is Danish and admits she can't pinpoint a Leeds accent.

'Yes it is a concern," she said of Hathaway's accent. "But they're actors and actors they always play things that they are not, that's part of their job."

Writer Nicholls, who adapted his novel for the screenplay, doesn't think it's an issue.

but British actors are constantly playing American roles and it's always seen as a rather good thing and I see no reason why it shouldn't be a good thing working the other way."

The film tells the story of university friends Emma and Dexter—played by British actor Jim Sturgess—who spend the night together following their graduation.

It catches up with them on the same day of every year for 20 years to see how their lives are changing.

"One Day" opens in U.K. "I understand the trepidation theaters on Wednesday.

Guillermo del Toro's afraid of day, not the dark

NEW YORK (AP)—Guillermo del Toro is the mastermind behind "Don't Be Afraid of the Dark," in U.S. theaters this weekend, but he says his own scariest time is during broad

Del Toro acknowledged in a recent interview that his nighttime dreams are actually "very boring." Instead, the Oscarwinning producer, director and screenwriter said he has "an overactive imagination in the day": a "horrible" condition because he always is overreacting to something.

"If my wife takes 15 minutes longer to come back from the supermarket, I'm already fantasizing with horror stories. You know: what happened? A crash? An accident? A plane landed on the car? I tend to get paranoid really fast," he said.

That could be the inspiration for the monster-meister's dark films such as "Pan's Labyrinth," the "Hellboy" series, and now "Don't Be Afraid of the Dark," a film del Toro describes as a classic gothic thriller.

It stars 11-year-old Bailee to each other and the school

Madison as Sally, who is sent to live with her father, played by Guy Pierce, and his girlfriend, played by Katie Holmes. In the house, Sally hears voices that turn out to be what del Toro describes as "little crea-

tures that are very, very nasty," that live in the cellars, in caves, under the house and, of course, are up to no good.

del Toro

Del Toro produced the film and co-wrote the screenplay, which he says is very close to his heart and took more than 16 years finally to get into theaters. It is based on a 1973 television movie of the same name, which del Toro says was the scariest movie he saw as a young boy.

He says the story then took on a life of its own, noting that

those were days before people could re-watch movies on video. "So we just retold the story

> boys and through the vears I realized that a lot of the moments I liked about the movie we have made up; we had invented," he said.

> Del Toro originally planned to direct "Don't Be Afraid of

the Dark" but could not because at the time he was directing Peter Jackson's "The Hobbit" (del Toro quit the production in May 2010 after two years of involvement, citing production delays).

He acknowledges that under the direction of Troy Nixey, "Don't Be Afraid of the Dark" looks very different from what he envisioned, but he says the best part of this experience was "to see the world you've dreamt of so long interpreted in a different way.



US astronaut Shepard's letter being auctioned

CONCORD, New Hampshire (AP)—Alan Shepard wrote his parents 52 years ago, telling them about the possibility that he could be asked to pilot America's first mission into space.

But before letting them in on the big news, he offered pleasantries and discussed how much he liked his renovated house and was looking forward to an upcoming wedding.

"Thanks so much for your recent note, Daddy," Shepard started the letter that's up for auction next month.

Shepard, who in 1961 became the first American in space, was an experienced Navy test pilot when he wrote the Jan. 29, 1959, letter to "Mother and Daddy." He began talking about the space program in the fourth paragraph, and stuck to the topic for the rest of the three-page letter.

RR Auction of Amherst, New Hampshire, told The Associated Press the rare handwritten letter written in ink is being auctioned next month by a California collector who bought it five years ago. The company expects it to sell for as much as \$80,000.

Shepard, who was born in Derry, New Hampshire, and died in 1998, said early in the letter how much he was enjoying a new addition to his house in Virginia Beach, Virginia, and how he had room for guests, "so come on down!"

He added that he was planning to attend a wedding in April before telling his parents he was driving to Washington that afternoon for a briefing and for consideration to be part of the "Man in Space" program.

Levi Johnston: Too busy to run for Alaska mayor

JUNEAU, Alaska (AP)—Levi Johnston won't be mayor of Wasilla, Alaska, anytime soon.

Johnston, who toyed with running as part of a reality show, isn't an official candidate for the Oct. 4 election. His attorney, Rex Butler, says Johnston is



too busy to run. Butler declined to give specifics but says Johnston has a book coming

next month and plans a tour.

Johnston was thrust into the national spotlight in 2008, when Sarah Palin was running for vice president. Johnston was the boyfriend of Palin's daughter Bristol, who was pregnant at the time with the couple's child.

The couple has since split.

Johnston went on to pose partially nude for Playgirl, and has said his book will set the record straight about the Palin family, with whom he's had a rocky relationship.



In this May 8, 1961 file photo, astronaut Alan B. Shepard Jr. receives the NASA Distinguished Service Medal from President John F, Kennedy after it was dropped by the chief executive during White House ceremonies honoring the astronaut in Washington. Next to Shepard are his wife and his parents.

"Basically, 100 of the country's top pilots have been selected to go to Washington to be briefed on the plans for putting a man in space some time during 1961," Shepard wrote. "We are being given a chance to volunteer for or reject the opportunity after the briefing."

He wrote that volunteers would go through a "rigorous elimination process until a handful are selected." He said the

program and space travel was a fascinating subject that he was proud to be associated with.

"I assure you that I will analyze the entire picture based on my past flight experience. I intend to do it very carefully of courseand will most certainly volunteer. There is no reason for expression of fear but merely gratitude to be considered for this very important contribution to science and the country," he wrote.

Seven astronauts were chosen that April for the Mercury program: Shepard, Scott Carpenter, Gordon Cooper, John Glenn, Gus Grissom, Wally Schirra and Deke Slayton.

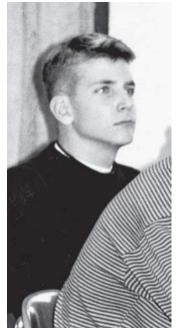
Shepard rode in Freedom 7 in a rocket-powered suborbital flight, on May 5, 1961, to become the first American in space. The flight reached an altitude of 116 miles (186 kilometers).

Lady Gaga, Ryan Reynolds class photos published

LOS ANGELES (AP)-Bradley Cooper's teenage tennis practice. Lady Gaga's first communion. A young Scarlett Johansson decorating a Christmas tree. Ryan Reynolds goofing around with his high-school classmates. Country crooner Blake Shelton as a guitar-playing kid.

These are just a few of the before-they-were-stars photos included in Ancestry.com's U.S. School Yearbook Collection. The genealogy website recently expanded its yearbook database to include nearly 7 million images from thousands of schools in the United States.

The database is designed to provide insight into family members' school years, says Ancestry.com executive vice president



Josh Hanna, "and while you're searching, you might just find a famous classmate.'

Among the celebrities included in the expanded database are Jon Stewart, LeBron James, Justin Timberlake, Gwyneth Paltrow, George Clooney, Will Ferrell and Sean Penn, sporting shaggy locks like his Jeff Spicoli character from 1982's "Fast Times at Ridgemont High."

The expanded U.S. Yearbook Collection will be available beginning Aug. 24.

In this 1992 photo released by Ancestry.com, actor Bradley Cooper is shown during chemistry class in his junior year at Germantown Academy in Fort Wash-

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

LAPD probe threatening letter to Craig Ferguson LOS ANGELES (AP)—

Los Angeles police are investigating a threatening letter sent to Craig Ferguson which contained a white powder that turned out to be harmless. Det. Gus Villanueva declined Tuesday to discuss the nature of the threat against the talk show host, saying only that it came in an envelope sent from overseas. Two people at CBS Television City, where "The Late Late Show" is filmed, were temporarily held in isolation after being exposed to

the powder around 3 p.m. in Comedy. Veteran producer They were released after a Nigel Lythgoe called Stiller "a screened the powder and found it to be benign. FBI spokeswoman Laura Eimiller said the agency was working with police to find out who sent the letter.

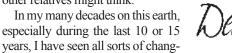
Ben Stiller to receive British comedy award

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Ben Stiller is being honored for his comedic contributions by the British Academy of Film and Television. The group's Los Angeles branch says Stiller will receive the Charlie Chaplin Britannia Award for Excellence the legendary filmmaker for whom this award is named, embodies the remarkable multi-hyphenate talents of actor, writer, director and producer." Lythgoe serves as chairman of BAFTA Los Angeles. Stiller will receive the honor at the Brittania Awards on Nov. 30, when actress Helena Bonham Carter and animator John Lasseter are also being recognized. The 45-year-old Stiller has earned box-office success and critical acclaim as a writer, director, actor and producer. He will next be seen opposite Eddie Murphy in "Tower Heist."

Modern brides' trip to altar is crowded with relatives

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

DEAR ABBY: A young bride-to-be who signed her letter "Touchy Decision in Ohio" (June 18) prefers her stepdad walk her down the aisle at her wedding, but is worried about what her biological father (whom she sees once or twice a year) and other relatives might think.





es in wedding etiquette, including the customs governing who walks down the aisle. In addition to fathers escorting daughters, I've seen brothers escort sisters and children walk their mother to the altar. In "Ohio's" case, the logical solution, and the more appropriate one, to me, would be to have both gentlemen escort her

The bride-to-be should consider that the hurt feelings that often crop up on sensitive occasions such as this, if not attended to beforehand, can tarnish the memory of the event in the minds of loved ones forever.

down the aisle, one on either side. What could be lovelier?

BARB H. IN SPRINGFIELD, MASS.

DEAR BARB: Thank you for your response. Opinions regarding "Ohio's" letter are numerous and varied. A majority of those I heard from agree with your suggestion that both dads share the task. However, others viewed it differently. My newspaper readers' comment:

DEAR ABBY: If the biological father wanted to be a part of his daughter's life he should have made more of an effort to be there for her. The stepdad no doubt put up with all the growing pains associated with raising a teenager as well as other parenting challenges. These are the prerequisites for walking a daughter down the aisle. Although most males can father a child, not all of them can truly be a FATHER.

STEPDAD TO A WONDERFUL DAUGHTER

DEAR ABBY: I can't believe how ignorant, uncaring and selfish a bride would be to dump her dad on her wedding day. Everyone WILL notice and everyone WILL care.

Ladies, unless your father is a total loser who was absent, a drunk, a jailbird, an addict or a deadbeat, walking you down the aisle is HIS privilege—no one else's. It also shouldn't be based on how much money he was able or willing to fork over for the wedding. This is the day a real man and father has looked forward to since the day you were born.

And to any man who is asked to escort a bride down the aisle: Before agreeing, ask what her situation is with her father. You may be taking a spot you don't deserve.

MARY IN OHIO

DEAR ABBY: My daughter wanted her stepfather AND her biological father to be part of her wedding. So her stepdad (my husband) walked her down the aisle to where I was sitting in the first row. I stood up, gave her my handkerchief and kissed her cheek. Then her father stepped out from the row behind me, and her stepdad handed her over to her father, who walked her the rest of the way to the altar and gave her away. Everyone was happy with this amicable solution.

JOYCE IN ALABAMA

DEAR ABBY: I was in the same situation at my wedding. My solution was to have my stepfather walk me down the aisle and my father do the father/daughter dance. That way both men were acknowledged and each one given his special time.

KATHY IN NEW ENGLAND

DEAR ABBY: Rather than worry about her father's feelings, the young woman could have her mother walk her down the aisle. Mom has been the constant in her life and there's no reason she shouldn't accompany her daughter to the altar. That way, Mom gets recognition for her part in raising her daughter and no feelings are hurt.

GRETCHEN IN THE HEARTLAND

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." To order, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby - Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

22 THURSDAY, AUGUST 25, 2011 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

Garfield®

By Jim Davis















Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

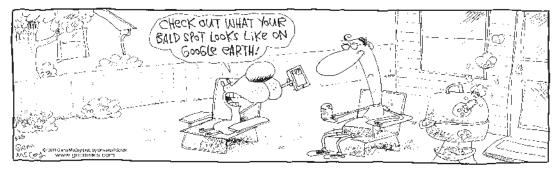
By Glenn McCoy











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STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955!** 99c per minute, touch tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Blake Lively, 24; Rachel Bilson, 30; Billy Ray Cyrus, 50; Sean Connery, 81.

Happy Birthday: The more you interact with others, the better off you will be. Sharing knowledge will allow you to pick up valuable information that will enable you to do things you haven't done in the past. Opportunity knocks, and you must be ready to take advantage of what's being offered. Your memory will help you leave a lasting impression with someone influential. Your numbers are 8, 14, 21, 27, 30, 34, 46.

ARIES (MARCH 21-APRIL 19): Don't make unnecessary alterations in your life. It's important to keep things flowing. Problems at home will escalate if you get into a shouting match. Do whatever you can to ensure that the job you do leaves no room for criticism. 😂

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Do something that will mellow you out or make you feel good about yourself. Romance is in a high cycle. If you are single, engage in activities conducive to meeting someone special. If you are in a relationship, make plans for two.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Get in touch with someone who has been on your mind. It's best to find out firsthand whether you should be dwelling on the past instead of moving forward. Attending a reunion or revisiting old ideas, places or friends will help you rethink your future.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Emotions will surface, and sensitivity will mount. Don't let anything or anyone get to you.

It's all about focus and refusing to let the little things bother you. Helping others will allow you to view your own situation with greater objectiv-

ity. OOO

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Changes due to situations beyond your control must be looked at carefully. You may need an outsider's advice. You can make professional gains if you are practical and realistic. A new direction will be a refreshing change. **200**

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Getting

together with familiar faces will lead to benefits and renewed feelings, plans and expectations. Changes with regard to your current living arrangements are apparent. Do the right thing and avoid opposition.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Proceed with caution. Don't let your emotions overwhelm you at work. You can make promises as long as they are realistic and easy for you to honor. Once you have reached your goals, you will be able to help others. 😂

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Your drive, determination and convincing way of dealing with others will help you get your way. A trip that allows you to talk to someone face-to-face will help your project move along much faster. Set aside time to celebrate your gains with someone special. *******

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): A stubborn attitude will not help you get your way. You will have to be upfront about the way you feel and your intentions. A

relationship will be in jeopardy if you try to

EUGENIA

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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avoid issues or go behind his or her back. Take

care of old business before you start something new. QQQ CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Don't

procrastinate. A contract or settlement can lead to greater financial freedom. Take a closer look at a partnership that has the potential to help you achieve your personal or professional goals. Love is in the stars.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You need to stimulate your mind and be creative. A change at home will help you develop a way to increase your assets. Make a deal, and you will be able to stabilize your situation and build a better future.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Accommodating others doesn't have to mean giving in. Stipulate what you want in

return, and you can build an equal partnership that can benefit all involved. Love and romance should be included in your agenda. �����

Birthday Baby: You are hard-working, practical, goal oriented and open-minded.

Eugenia's Web sites: eugenialast.com for confidential consultations, myspace.com/eugenialast for Eugenia's blog, astroadvice.com for fun

Difficulty Level ★★★

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

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WONDERWORD By DAVID **OUELLET**

appear in the puzzle — horizon-ind them and CIRCLE THEIR HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below tally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE LETTERS ONLY DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover sayell the Words reserved.

WEB CHECK-INS Solution: 8 letter:

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Attorney for Petitioner

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN **MARIANA ISLANDS**

IN THE MATTER]	FCD AD
OF THE ADOPTION]	CIVIL ACTIO
AND CHANGE OF]	NO. 11-0337
NAME OF:]	FCD
YUNIKA MAE]	
FLORES VILLAR,]	NOTICE
Minor Child, Adoptee;]	OF
]	HEARING
By:]	
]	
DOMINGA F. VILLAR,]	

Petitioner.

Date: October 3, 2011 Time: 1:30pm Judge: Hon. Perry B. Inos

Please take notice that at 1:30pm, October 3, 2011, or as soon thereaf can be heard, this Court will hold a hearing at the Superior Court in Susup Saipan for the specific purpose of:

1. Determining whether a decree of adoption of the minor child, Yunika Mae Flores Villar should be granted to Petitioner herein.

affected an opportunity to be heard

Dated this 4th day of August, 2011.

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Tennessee's Summitt has early onset dementia



KNOXVILLE, Tenn. (AP)—Pat Summitt struggled for several months with how to tell the women's basketball

players at Tennessee, recruits and fans that she was having memory loss problems.

Finally, her son Tyler helped convince her to open up.

The 59-year-old Hall of Fame coach surprised the sports world Tuesday by saying she had been diagnosed with early onset dementia—the Alzheimer's type.

Step down after 37 seasons? Not a chance.

"I plan to continue to be your coach," she said in a statement released by the university. "Obviously, I realize I may have some limitations with this condition since there will be some good days and some bad days."

Tennessee athletics director Joan Cronan said Summitt initially chalked up her memory problems to side effects from medicine she was taking to treat rheumatoid arthritis. The coach first consulted local doctors, who recommended she undergo a more extensive evaluation. In May, she traveled to the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn., where doctors performed a spinal tap and other tests that eventually produced the diagnosis.

Summitt's first reaction was anger, but that soon gave way to determination.

"She's ready to fight this and move on," Cronan said. "She had to come to grips with how she wanted to face it."

Talking about it was a big step and her son was instrumental in making that happen.

"Tyler has been so courageous in this," Summitt's longtime associate head coach Holly Warlick said. "He encouraged her to come forward."

Tyler has been supporting his mother throughout this process; he went to the Mayo Clinic with her in May. And though he has been a great sounding board, the 20-year-old said his mom's revelation is a life lesson for everyone.

"It seems like she teaches me something new every day, and she is currently giving me one of the best life lessons of all: to have the courage to be open, honest, and face the truth," he said. "This will be a new chapter for my mom and I, and we will continue to work as a team like we always have done."

Summitt's family and closest confidants have known about her condition since she first learned of it, but the Hall of Fame coach first revealed the news publically to the Washington Post and Knoxville News Sentinel. She informed the Lady Vols about her diagnosis in a team meeting on Tuesday afternoon.

Junior guard Taber Spani said the meeting was business-like, with Sum-



In a Monday, Aug. 22, 2011, photo provided by the University of Tennessee, Tennessee women's basketball coach Pat Summitt sits next to her son, Tyler Summitt, at her Knoxville, Tenn.

mitt calmly telling the Lady Vols nothing would get in the way for their quest of a ninth national title this season.

"More than anything she just emphasized that she's our coach and that she wanted us to have complete confidence in her, and we do," Spani said.

Warlick said the players told Summitt that they were committed to her and the Tennessee family and would not let her down. Warlick said for Summitt, the support was "like a weight was off her shoulders."

"I watched how our team reacted to us today," Warlick said. "They said, 'Pat we love you. We're a family. We're going to get this done. You're going to get through this.""

Warlick said Summitt also wanted to crush any speculation about her health after the announcement.

"We got on the phone immediately and called kids and commitments and had nothing but a huge amount of support," Warlick said. "I think it's one thing to see it on the (TV news) ticker. It's another thing to hear from Pat Summitt that we're here, we're going to be here and nothing is going to change about Tennessee basketball.'

Baylor coach Kim Mulkey wouldn't expect anything to change. She who won a gold medal playing for Summitt in the 1984 Olympics and expects Summitt to face dementia with the same toughness she approaches basketball.

"She's our John Wooden. If you are a Tennessee fan or not, there's no denying her place in women's basketball," Mulkey said. "I played for the woman. She's as tough as nails. People think I'm tough. I'm a pussycat compared to Pat Summitt Pat Summitt will fight. Pat Summitt will be on a crusade to help people with dementia."

Cronan and UT-Knoxville Chancellor Jimmy Cheek have pledged their confidence in Summitt as well, maintaining that Summitt will be allowed to coach as long as she feels capable of doing so, which was a relief to Summitt, Warlick said.

"Pat Summitt is our head coach and she will continue to be," Cronan said. "She is an icon not only for women's basketball but for all of women's athletics. For Pat to stand-up and share her health news is just a continuing example of her courage. Life is an unknown and none of us have a crystal ball. But

I do have a record of knowing what Pat Summitt stands for; excellence, strength, honesty and courage."

Warlick, who with fellow Lady Vols assistants Dean Lockwood and Mickie DeMoss, will assume extra responsibilities as needed to help Summitt.

As college basketball's winningest coach, Summitt has spent 37 seasons at Tennessee and has 1,071 career victories and eight national championships. She is not the alone in her fight. Retired men's basketball coach Dean Smiththe 80-year-old former North Carolina coach, who has 879 victories, reached 11 Final Fours and won two national championships—is suffering from a progressive neurocognitive disorder that affects his memory.

That doesn't surprise any of Summitt's former players or rivals.

"I'm definitely shocked to hear the news, but knowing Pat she will get through this, and we will all stand by her side through this," Indiana Fever forward Tamika Catchings said. "She'll face yet another obstacle with determination and will power to live life to the fullest."

LSU coach and former Lady Vol Nikki Caldwell agreed.

"I've known Coach Summitt for 23 years and there has never been a fight that she's backed down from," Caldwell said. "All of us who have played or coached under her leadership, we know she will take this fight on like she does with every task. She will do it with dignity, toughness, courage and an unwavering commitment."

Los Angeles Sparks forward Candace Parker said she's excited Summitt is going to continue coaching and doing what she loves.

"I'm so proud of her for coming forward with it. I think a lot of people would have hid it," she said.

Connecticut coach Geno Auriemma summed up most of the reaction to Summitt's diagnosis.

"You don't necessarily associate dementia with people our age so this announcement really put things in perspective," Auriemma said in a statement. "Pat has great support from her family, friends and staff and I know they will help her immensely. There is no doubt in my mind that Pat will take on this challenge as she has all others during her Hall of Fame career—head

FOXBOROUGH, Mass.

(AP)—New England's Albert Haynesworth returned to practice Tuesday, one day after he pleaded no contest to a charge of simple assault.

Haynesworth was in pads and participated in drills at the beginning of the afternoon practice. The defensive lineman is one piece of the Patriots' rebuilt defense.

Haynesworth last practiced on Aug. 4, and was in pads but did not practice on Saturday. Coach Bill Belichick had been describing Haynesworth's situation as "day to day" for two weeks.

The no-contest plea Monday resolved the case in which he was accused of touching a waitress' breast while hav-

Patriots' Haynesworth returns to practice

ing drinks with friends at a Washington worth's return. hotel. He must stay out of trouble during the next 18 months and complete 160 hours of community service.

"It helps every player to be out there in practice," Belichick said Tuesday before practice when asked about Haynesworth, calling the legal situation a "personal matter" he wouldn't comment on.

He also declined to speculate on whether the NFL might take any action

"Whatever the league does, they'll announce," Belichick said.

All-Pro linebacker Jerod Mayo was looking forward to Haynes-

"When we come in here, it's all about football," Mayo said. "We don't even talk about it. He's a great player and I'm sure when he's healthy, he'll get out there and make some plays."

The defense—especially the completely revamped defensive linehave been strong in the Patriots' preseason wins, even without several key players.

Mayo wreaked havoc on the Tampa Bay offense in the 31-14 preseason win Thursday over Tampa Bay. He had five tackles and two sacks early in the game, setting the tone for the defense.

"We did a good job executing the game plan coach Belichick had," said Mayo, who said teams will have a hard time predicting how the Patriots will line up along the defensive front. "We're a very multiple defense. One week we may come out with pressure, the next week we may come out kicking back in coverage. You never know, and I think that's a good quality of this defense."

Mayo is expected to be one of the main beneficiaries of the revamped defensive line, freeing him to rush the passer.

"Those guys (the defensive line) have played excellent the whole train-

ing camp," he said. "Those guys eat up a lot of those blockers and allow me to

on. I wish her all the best."

Veteran defensive lineman Shaun Ellis practiced again Tuesday and should make his preseason debut Saturday against the Detroit Lions. He is also expecting big things from the defense.

"There are a lot of guys who are playmakers and are good at what they do," he said. "We just have to gel and we'll see what happens."

Second-round draft pick Ras-I Dowling of Virginia practiced for the second straight day Tuesday, bolstering a secondary already strengthened by the return of veteran Leigh Bodden. Dowling also is expected to make his preseason debut against the Lions.

Red Sox finally tastes victory against Rangers



LING-TON,

(AP)—Boston's Adrian Gonzalez homered twice as the Red Sox finally got their first win of the season at Texas, beating the Rangers 11-5 in Tuesday's clash of American League divisional leaders.

Jacoby Ellsbury made an immediate impact in his return to the lineup, leading off the game with a single, stealing second and scoring on Gonzalez's first homer, putting the Red Sox ahead to stay. The All-Star center fielder had missed three games after getting by a pitch.

Boston, which had lost its first four games at Rangers Ballpark this season, moved within two percentage points of first-place New York in the AL East.

Red Sox starter John Lackey (12-9) pitched 6 2-3 innings for his seventh win in his past eight starts.

Texas starter Colby Lewis (11-9) allowed seven runs over six innings.

Tigers 2, Rays 1

In St. Petersburg, Brad Penny pitched effectively into the seventh inning as Detroit edged Tampa Bay.

Penny (9-9) gave up one run over 6 1-3 innings, getting back to his best after shaky recent form.

Phil Coke struck out five over the final two innings for his first save.

Alex Avila had an RBI single for the Tigers.

Rays starter David Price (11-11) allowed two runs in eight innings to take the loss.

Athletics 6, Yankees 5

In New York, Brandon Allen hit two long homers and Eric Sogard connected for one that barely cleared the wall as Oakland hung on to beat New York.

Brandon McCarthy extended the A's stretch of superb pitching by going into the eighth before allowing a two-out, three-run homer to Nick Swisher. Those three runs were one more than Oakland had given up in the previous three games combined.

The Yankees, who had trailed 6-0 in the seventh, got two more runs in the ninth against closer Andrew Bailey before Swisher flied out to the wall in right-centerfield with the bases loaded to end it.

McCarthy (7-6) struck out six in 7 2-3 innings, improving to 6-1 in eight starts since the All-Star break.

Yankees starter Bartolo Colon (8-8) gave up five runs for the second straight start. He has not won in four starts.

Angels 5, White Sox 4

In Anaheim, Peter Bourjos drove a single through a drawn-in infield with the bases loaded in the ninth inning, lifting Los Angeles to its fifth straight win, edging Chicago.

After Erick Aybar's one-out single off Jason Frasor (3-3),



Boston Red Sox Adrian Gonzalez is met at home plate by teammates after hitting a two run homer in the first inning against the Texas Rangers during the first inning of the baseball game in Arlington, Texas, Tuesday, Aug. 23, 2011.

Alberto Callaspo moved him Billy Butler homered for Kansas to third with a single. Maicer Izturis walked to load the bases, and Bourjos singled to left for the winner.

Howie Kendrick earlier homered and tripled as the Angels matched their longest win streak of the season and trimmed their AL West deficit to 3-1/2 games behind Texas.

Chicago's Paul Konerko had driven in the tying run with an eighth-inning single that was his 2,000th career hit.

Angels closer Jordan Walden (4-3) pitched the ninth inning to take the win.

Indians 7, Mariners 5, 1st game **Mariners 12, Indians** 7, 2nd game

In Cleveland, Anthony Vasquez won his major league debut as Seattle won the night game to split a double-header against Cleveland.

Vasquez (1-0) was one of five first-year players in Seattle's starting lineup which scored five runs in both the third and fourth innings.

Fellow rookie Dustin Ackley got three RBIs off Zach McAllister (0-1).

The Indians won the opener with a walk-off homer by Shin-Soo Choo, snapping a fourgame losing streak.

Kusoke Fukudome and Choo hit solo homers and Jack Hannahan had a career-high four hits for Cleveland, which won despite going only 3 for 15 with runners in scoring position.

Choo's three-run homer off Brandon League (1-5) in the bottom of the ninth gave the Indians a dramatic win.

Royals, 6, Blue Jays 4 In Toronto, Eric Hosmer and

City in the win over Toronto.

Jeff Francoeur matched his career high with four hits as the Royals, who had lost six of seven away from home, but opened a 10-game, 10-day road trip in positive fashion.

Kansas City starter Bruce Chen (9-5) won his fourth consecutive start. He allowed four hits in 7 2-3 innings, walking only one and tying a career best with nine strikeouts.

Orioles 8, Twins 1

In Minneapolis, Alfredo Simon allowed just one run in a careerhigh eight innings, helping Baltimore cruise past Minnesota.

Simon (4-6) struck out a careerbest eight, retired 16 of the final 17 batters he faced and didn't give up a hit after the third.

Vladimir Guerrero and Mark Reynolds both had three hits for the Orioles, while Nolan Reimold added a three-run homer.

Minnesota starter Brian Duensing (8-13) was lifted in the third inning as his struggles continued. He gave up seven runs while losing his fifth

The Twins have lost five of six games on the current homestand.

Phillies 9, Mets 4

In Philadelphia, Phillies pitcher Vance Worley kept New York scoreless until the seventh inning, laying the foundation for the Phillies' win over the Mets.

Worley (9-1) finally allowed one run and had a career-high nine strikeouts to win his seventh straight decision.

Playing without Jimmy Rollins, Ryan Howard and Raul Ibanez, the Phillies still got 13 hits. The red-hot John Mayberry and Shane Victorino both hit homers and each had two hits and three RBIs.

Mets starter Jonathon Niese (11-11) gave up eight runs in four-plus innings in his worst start of the season. He is likely to go on the disabled list with a rib injury.

New York has lost five straight.

Brewers 11, Pirates 4

In Pittsburgh, Casey McGehee homered during Milwaukee's seven-run second inning as the Brewers powered past Pittsburgh.

McGehee's homer came with Ryan Braun on base and accounted for the final two runs of a dreadful inning for Pittsburgh's Ross Ohlendorf (0-1), who was making his first start since April 8.

Braun had a two-run double earlier in the inning. Nyjer Morgan finished 4 for 6 with two runs and two RBIs, and Jonathan Lucroy had three hits.

Milwaukee starter Marco Estrada (4-8) allowed two runs over seven innings, beating the Pirates for the second time in 11 days. The Brewers (78-53) surpassed last season's win total and topped Pittsburgh for the 14th time in the past 15 meetings.

Braves 5, Cubs 4

In Chicago, Craig Kimbrel tied a major league rookie record with his 40th save, preserving Atlanta's win over Chicago.

Kimbrel worked the ninth for his 40th save in 45 opportunities, tying a mark set by Texas' Neftali Feliz last season. He ran his scoreless streak to 31 2-3 innings as Atlanta won its sixth straight.

Jason Heyward hit his first career grand slam among his three hits. He connected after Alex Gonzalez drew a two-ut basesladed walk off Casey Coleman (2-6), making it 5-0.

Chipper Jones also had three hits for the Braves, who almost gave the game away.

Alfonso Soriano lead off the Cubs' four-run fifth with a homer. Then in the ninth, Aramis Ramirez singled with two outs, giving him a career-high five hits while extending his hitting streak to 12 games. He advanced to second to put the potential tying run in scoring position, but Tyler Colvin struck out to end the game.

Atlanta's Mike Minor (4-2) won his third straight start.

Diamondbacks 2, **Nationals 0**

In Washington, Ian Kennedy pitched seven scoreless innings to steer Arizona past Washington.

Kennedy (16-4) struck out eight and also added a single and a double with the bat. It was his eighth win in his past nine starts, and it ended Arizona's six-game losing streak.

Sean Burroughs' two-run Rockies 8, Astros 6 homer in the seventh inning was his first since 2005 and provided all the scoring for the game.

Nationals starter Jordan Zimmermann (8-11) held the Diamondbacks scoreless through six innings before Burroughs' shot.

Padres 7, Giants 5

In San Francisco, San Diego notched its fifth straight win, knocking San Francisco down to two games behind Arizona in the NL West race.

In the ninth, Nick Hundley doubled against Ramon Ramirez (2-2), then Logan Forsythe sacrificed him to third before Alberto Gonzalez singled up the middle for the go-ahead run. After a wild pitch, Will Venable added a run-scoring single.

Kyle Blanks earlier had a two-run homer for the Padres.

San Diego's Erik Hamren (1-0) retired iguel Tejada on a lineout to end the Giants' three-run eighth, taking his first major league win. Heath Bell finished for his 35th save in 39 opportunities.

Dodgers 13, **Cardinals 2**

In St. Louis, Clayton Kershaw won his NL-leading 16th game as Los Angeles routed fading St. Louis.

Kershaw (16-5) is 8-1 with a 1.21 ERA in his past nine starts and notched eight strikeouts to hike his NL-leading total to 207.

Matt Kemp hit a three-run homer in the first and Rod Baraias had a solo homer in the third and three-run shot in the fifth for his 11th multihomer game. The Dodgers hit a season-high four homers while winning consecutive games in St. Louis for the first time since 2003.

Cardinals starter Kyle Lohse (11-8) was rocked for a seasonworst eight runs in three innings as St. Louis dropped a seasonlow 10 games behind NL Central-leading Milwaukee.

Reds 8, Marlins 6

In Miami, Yonder Alonso homered and drove in four runs, including a tiebreaking double in the ninth inning that sent Cincinnati past fading Florida.

Alonso, who grew up in Miami, had more than 200 friends and family members on hand to see him go 3 for 4 while making his first start of the season at first base.

Dave Sappelt tied the game 6-6 with a two-run double and the Reds scored four times in the ninth off closer Leo Nunez (1-4). They were the first career RBIs for Sappelt, who had

Jay Bruce hit his 27th home run of the season for the Reds, who inflicted a sixth straight defeat on the Marlins.

Cincinnati's Aroldis Chapman (3-1) struck out the only batter he faced to take the win.

In Denver, Seth Smith and Jonathan Herrera each hit two-run homers to lift Colorado over Houston.

Colorado took control of a back-and-forth game in the seventh. Smith led off with a walk and one out later Herrera hit a line drive off reliever Fernando Rodriguez (2-2) to give the Rockies an 8-6 lead.

Rex Brothers pitched a scoreless ninth inning to earn his first major league save for the Rockies, who have won four straight for the first time since June. Matt Belisle (8-4) took the win.

The Astros have lost three in a row.

Upset victory for Kulet's Team All set for Gamecon

roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com REPORTER



Kulet's Team pulled off the biggest win in the 2011 Saipan Soccer School Futsal

League on Tuesday night at the TSL Sports Complex after stunning erstwhile leader Shirley's B

Four different players scored for Kulet's Team, handing the squad its third win in eight games. Shirley's B fell to a 7-2-0 win-loss-record and lost the No. 1 spot to sister team Shirley's A (7-1-0).

The former leader failed to make it to the scoreboard in the first half, while Kulet's Team drew one goal each from Vanessa Pritchard and Corina. Alexa Varga and Marriele Gariguez scored for Shirley's B in the second half, but they still lost, as Kulet's Team also gained one goal apiece from Windy Orcine and Dyenina Diaz.

IT&E Awesome 2, **Thai Team 2**

VISMINDA

From Page 28

The other women's game between IT&E Awesome and Thai Team resulted in a 2-2 draw.

Thai Team had the lead at the break, 2-0, behind a goal each from Catherine Perry and Pra-

Ray Lizama and Junior Renguul

had a bundle of those layups

and short jumpers, respectively,

while Jun Abedes made two lei-



Go Green and Korean Futsal players battle for possession of the ball in their 2011 Saipan Soccer School Futsal League game Tuesday night at the TSL Sports Complex.

toom Stoffer. Michelle Masga scored IT&E Awesome's lone goal in the first half.

In the second half, Carrie Schuler made the equalizer for IT&E Awesome, which now has a 6-2-1 slate. Thai Team has a 3-3-2 card.

Go Green 5, **Korean Futsal 5**

The men's match between Go Green and Korean Futsal also

VisMinda led by only five at

halftime, 41-36, and then out-

scored MAFEA in the third,

21-11, for a 62-47 advantage.

VisMinda stretched the lead

to 20 plus in the fourth, as its

bench escaped with unchal-

lenged shots in the last two

ended in draw, 5-5.

Semisi tallied a pair for Go Green, while Jersh Angeles, Fradel Sedillo, and Russelle Zapanta hit one apiece. Jin Wook Cho, Jeong Jin Jeon, Dae Won Jeon, Dae Min Jeon, and Min Jong Choi logged one each for Korean Futsal (6-2-1), which is a win behind leader Wild Bill's (7-1-0).

Docomo 7, Red Inter 5 Docomo took the solo third place

Renguul and Abedes led Vis-Minda in scoring with 18 markers each, while Leo Ruluked and Lizama added 17 and 10, respectively. Ed Cosino and Danny Bicera made 13 apiece for VisMinda, while Elmer Pineda chipped in 11.

VisMinda 90 – Abedes 18, Ren-

four goals. Peter Loken chipped

in the team standings after beat-

ing Red Inter, 7-5.

Ropati Tonuu led Docomo's fifth win in nine games, scoring in two, while Steve McKagan recorded one.

Peter Houk and Matt Holley had two goals each for Red Inter, while Arkie Reusora made only one, as their team absorbed its third loss in nine matches.

guul 18, Ruluked 17, Lizama 10, Manipon 8, Alejandro 6, Bugay 5, Anasan 4, Garcia 2, Suda 2.

MAFEA 66 – Bicera 13, Cosino 13, Pineda 11, de la Torre 6, Sevilla 4, Vistal 3, Canoy 3, Manalili 2, Guirey 2.

Scoring by quarters: 22-13, 41-36, 62-47, 90-66.

ished second and third, respectively. Tahiti claimed the gold medal in the men's individual event, while Samoa took the sil-

"We will do our best against these favorites and hopefully we can win both in the team and individual events," the veteran golfer added.

NAMFREL

From Page 28

half minutes of the second canto, Aguon brought his starting five back on the floor and the group went on to do the damage for Proa. Namfrel's lead ballooned to 19 at the break, 48-29.

NMBA fell on a deep hole ear-

ly in the game, as it was rattled by Proa's backcourt pressure defense, resulting in numerous fastbreak plays for the latter.

After cherry picking for layups in the first half, Proa leaned on its impressive shooting from downtown to post their biggest winning margin so far in the season. Proa connected on seven triples in the second half

and 10 overall against NMBA's lone triple.

Kovin Ogumoro came of the bench with 15 points to topscore for Proa. Five other Proa players tallied in double figures, while four others drilled at least two field goals each.

Morales and Muncal had 18 each for NMBA, which played without gunner Jeff Pagarao.

Namfrel/Proa 105 - Ogumoro 15, Sablan 13, Lizama 13, Chariton 11, Iguel 10, Valdez 10, Barcinas 9, Mendiola 9, Johnson 8, Babauta 4.

NMBA/MDX 61 - Morales 18, Mungcal 18, Acosta 4, Montes 4, Timbal 4, Ito 4, Valiente 3, Camacho 2, Detero 2.

Scoring by quarters: 22-12, 48-29, 80-47, 105-61.

"He has been pushing me so

hard and with that I feel like I am ready for the race," said the 2010 Micronesian Games gold medalist, who would like to thank IT&E, Brabu, Bike Pro, Salomon, Suunto and Zoot, and her Saipan supporters.

When she competes in this weekend's race, Carey is hop-

ing for a much better weather. It rained hard in Marunuma last

time of 3:00:16.

2011 this Saturday

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHER-LAND

walter_sutherland@saipantribune.com REPORTER

Over \$1,500 in cash and a multitude of other prizes are up for grabs along with a year's worth of bragging rights in the CN-MI's largest video game competition, Gamecon 2011, which is set for Saturday starting at 11am to 8:30pm in Saipan Grand Hotel's Club V. The deadline to sign up is by 6pm

"We had a crowd of over 300 last year and are hoping for a similar turnout. There are a lot great prize packages that go to the Top 3 place finishers of each category," said Beach Road Magazine account manager Susan Marchitti in a phone interview on Wednesday.

This year's Gamecon will feature Halo Reach, League of Legends, and NBA Live.

NBA Live was added to the list after receiving so many requests from last year's participants and will be formatted with two-person teams.

League of Legends is formatted with teams of five and will be set with no rules, while this year, organizers opted not to feature a Halo Reach team category, therefore grab your jet packs and sprint shoes as island slayers will have to go it alone among various Free For All, Rumble Pit, and/or King of the Hill variants.

The entrance fee is set at \$20 per person and since all three competitions will commence simultaneously, participation in multiple categories cannot be guaranteed. Participants

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

will also receive a free Scoops coupon with registration.

Audience tickets cost \$5 apiece and box lunches prepared by Saipan Grand Hotel will also be available for purchase in the

Children under 7 years old are not allowed in the gaming venue and parental consent is required for all minors before being allowed to play the

Docomo Pacific's latest array of Android handsets and tablets will also be on display in the VIP room where participants and spectators can obtain hands-on experience using the new gadgets.

Last year, Steven Rasa Fojas and Matt Igitol were crowned Halo 3 and Call of Duty II Modern Warfare individual champions, respectively.

Team Awesome made up of Patrick Reyes, John Faller, Brendon Larenz, Judah Basaldua, and Kelvin Magsiposi won the Halo 3 team event, while a no-name group made up of Justin Cabrera, Jose Pangelinan, James Phillips, Austin Roberto, and Jude Sablan took home Call of Duty team honors.

Registration for Gamecon 2011 is ongoing and sign-up sheets can be obtained at Megabyte (235-6111) on Beach Road; the Glimpses of Saipan office located on the 2nd floor of the Transpacific Business Center in Gualo Rai; at Safety First, in Gualo Rai; or at Megazone, in Gualo Rai.

For more information, contact Beach Road Magazine's Marchitti at 483-3145 or call Glimpses at 235-7645.

GOLFERS

From Page 28

surely taken triples.

5,484-yard course and a regular venue for PGA event since

"It was not the same course we had in 1987, so we really have to check it and get used

to it quickly when we arrive in New Caledonia this weekend,"

minutes of the match

Wabol said. Fifteen countries are battling for the team and individual medals in the golf event. Joining the CNMI on the list are American Samoa, Cook Islands, Fiji, Guam, New Caledonia, Niue, PNG, Samoa, Solomon Islands,

Tahiti, Tonga, Vanuatu, and Wallis & Futuna.

"New Caledonia and Fiji will be our toughest opponents. The Cook Islands, Samoa, and Guam are also expected to field strong golfers," Wabol said.

American Samoa won the men's team event in 2007, while the Cook Islands and Fiji finver and bronze medals.

AMERICAN LEAGUE East Division

New York	77	49	.611	-					
Boston	78	50	.609	-					
Tampa Bay	69	58	.543	8 1/2					
Toronto	65	63	.508	13					
Baltimore	49	77	.389	28					
Central Division									

Detroit	70	Эö	.547	_
Cleveland	63	63	.500	6
Chicago	63	64	.496	6 1/2
Minnesota	55	73	.430	15
Kansas City	53	76	.411	17 1/2

West Division

lexas	/4	56	.569	_
Los Angeles	70	59	.543	3 1/2
0akland	58	70	.453	15
Seattle	55	73	.430	18

NATIONAL LEAGUE East Division

Philadelphia	83	44	.654	_
Atlanta	78	52	.600	6 1/2
Washington	62	65	.488	21
New York	60	68	.469	23 1/2
Florida	57	71	.445	26 1/2

Central Division

Miliwaukee	10	ეა	.595	_
St. Louis	67	62	.519	10
Cincinnati	63	65	.492	13 1/2
Pittsburgh	60	68	.469	16 1/2
Chicago	56	73	.434	21
Houston	42	87	.326	35

West Division

Arizona	/0	59	.543	_
San Francisco	68	61	.527	2
Colorado	62	68	.477	8 1/2
San Diego	60	70	.462	10 1/2
os Angeles	59	69	.461	10 1/2

Yesterday's Games

Arizona 2, Washington 0 Milwaukee 11, Pittsburgh 4 Philadelphia 9, N.Y. Mets 4 Cincinnati 8, Florida 6 Atlanta 5, Chicago Cubs 4 L.A. Dodgers 13, St. Louis 2 Colorado 8, Houston 6 San Diego 7, San Francisco 5 Cleveland 7, Seattle 5, 1st game Seattle 12, Cleveland 7, 2nd game Oakland 6, N.Y. Yankees 5 Kansas City 6, Toronto 4 Detroit 2, Tampa Bay 1 Boston 11, Texas 5 Baltimore 8, Minnesota 1

L.A. Angels 5, Chicago White Sox 4

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MIEKO From Page 28

in XTERRA Saipan. I have never raced against her so it will be a difficult one. She will definitely push me," the 33year-old athlete said.

Carey was referring to Mami Saito of Kawasaki, Japan. In 2005, she came in fourth behind Renata Bucher, Jamie Whitmore, and Ingrid Rolles.

The next year, the Japanese pro also finished fourth behind Bucher, Whitmore, and Monique Sawichi.

Despite facing a big threat from Saito, Carey is still confident about her chances in the 2011 edition of XTERRA Japan.

"I am not nervous, as I have trained hard and I just want to do my best in the race. I know that if I focus on my race, I will be smiling at the finish line," Carey said.

She trained for XTERRA

Japan for about two months, working out with fellow triathlete Lewie Tenorio two to three times a week.

year when the CNMI bet was about to reach the bike-runtransition area. In the last leg of the race, Carey had to run while it rained heavily and lighting struck on several occasions. The two-time XTERRA Ja-

pan champion went on to finish the 2010 race in three hours and three minutes, just more than two minutes behind her 2009 SAIPAN TRIBUNE THURSDAY, AUGUST 25, 2011 **27**

2011 Hong Kong-Saipan Goodwill Meet Winners

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO



From left, A Finals 40m breaststroke runner-up Angel De Jesus and winner Angel Marie Tan of Tsunami Saipan, third placer Wing Ting Yip and fourth finisher Sin Yin So of Hong Kong Sword Fish, and fifth placer Miku Tammy of Tsunami Saipan pose after receiving their medals.



Tsunami Saipan's Kensuke Kimura, second left, leads the Top 5 finishers in the A Finals of the 40m breaststroke. Joining him are, from left, teammate Shigeki Tenorio, Hong Kong's Ho Man Chan, Tsunami Saipan's Kaito Yanai, and Hong Jong's Dickson Hung.



Tsunami Saipan's Kensuke Kimura, the winner of the Most Outstanding Swimmer award in the 2011 Hong Kong-Saipan Goodwill Meet, bows to the crowd.



B Finals 40m breaststroke first placer Kaisei Toda of Tsunami Saipan is flanked by Hong Kong Sword Fish Swim Club's Wai Long Cheng, left, and Billy Chang during the awards ceremony for the 2011 Hong Kong-Saipan Goodwill Meet last Saturday at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool.



The Top 5 finishers in the 40m freestyle smile for the camera.



B Finals 40m breaststroke winner Julie Conner of Tsunami Saipan, right, poses with runner-up Hannah Palacios of Saipan Swim Club.



From left, B Finals 40m backstrokeTop 3 finishers, Lukas Kang and Shigeki Tenorio of Saipan, and Hong Kong's Wai Long Cheng. Northern Marianas Swimming Federation president John Hirsh, right, handed the medals to the winners.



Northern Marianas Swimming Federation president John Hirsh awards the silver medal to A Finals 40 backstroke runner-up Kaito Yanai of Tsunami Swim Club.



From left, Tsunami Saipan's Takumi Sugie, Kaito Yanai, and Kaisei Toda at the medal podium for the Top 3 finishers in the B Finals of the 40m butterfly event.



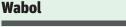
Tsunami Saipan's Miku Tammy, right, and Saipan Swim Club's Hannah Palacios pose for a photo after getting their medals in the B Finals 40m freestyle race.

Saipan Tribune SDOTTS

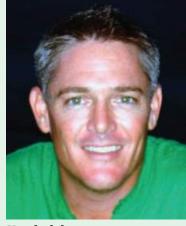
SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Golfers aim for medal podium finish









Hardwicke

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

he CNMI Golf Team is back in the Pacific Games and is hoping to make it to the medal podium after nearly finishing in the Top 3 in the team event on two occasions.



The squad, composed of Jess Wabol, Jeff Taylor, Tony Satur, and Adam Hardwicke, will be leaving Saipan this weekend to represent the CNMI in the 2011 Pacific Games in New Caledonia.

Wabol will be on his fifth Pacific Games stint (1985, 1995, 1999, 2003, and 2011) after missing the 2007 edition of the quadrennial meet in Samoa. Taylor will have his second Pacific Games appearance, while Satur and Hardwicke are debuting in the regional competition. Taylor won a bronze medal in the individual event in his Pacific Games debut in 1995 in Tahiti. Satur was also part of the 1995 team, but did not play, as he served as manager.

"Tony, even though he didn't play in Tahiti, and Jeff had already experienced the level of competition in the Pacific Games, so that's good news for us. Adam maybe be a firsttimer, but he had been through a lot of tough competitions here and won some of them, so he knows how it feels like to compete against great players," said Wabol.

Wabol is considering himself the dark horse, as he hasn't been playing in local tournaments and opted to train on his own due to a back problem.

"As a team, I believe we have a good chance of making it to the medal podium this time," Wabol said.

In 1995, the CNMI finished fourth, falling behind by only one stroke against Papua New Guinea. In 1999 in Guam, the Commonwealth golfers also fell one notch short of winning a medal when it placed fourth behind the Cook Islands. Again, the CNMI lost the bronze medal by only one stroke.

This year's golf competition in the Pacific Games will run from Aug. 31 to Sept. 3 at Golf de Tina in the Nouméa. Golf de Tina is a 72-hole,

See GOLFERS on Page 26

VisMinda clobbers MAFEA

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Vis Minda/ PIAHI recovered from its debut loss in the UFO Inter-Organization Youth and

Masters Basketball Docomo Pacific Cup 2011 with a 90-66 demolition of MAFEA/RNV on Tuesday night at the TSL Sports Complex.

After battling MAFEA in a close match in the first half, VisMinda turned on the heat in the second en route to a 24point win, its first after bowing to defending champion Cabalen/Wings Travel during the league's opening on Aug. 14, 60-90.

MAFEA fell to a 0-2 record, as the curse of the third-quarter collapse continued to haunt the team. In its first loss, MAFEA also had a neck-and-neck battle with MDX/Armatech in the first half. Then in the third period, MDX outgunned MAFEA, 29-17, and the former went on to cruise to a 110-77 victory. MAFEA allowed MDX too many open shots both from outside and inside.

Against VisMinda, MAFEA did it again. After missing its shots, MAFEA was slow to return to transition defense, allowing VisMinda easy fastbreak layups and uncontested baskets.

See VISMINDA on Page 26



ROSELYN B. MONROYO VisMinda/PIAHI's Arman Anasan pulls away from two MAFEA/RNV defenders for a reverse layup during their game in the masters division of the UFO Docomo Cup on Tuesday night at the TSL Sports Complex.

Namfrel/Proa routs NMBA

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Namfrel/Proa had a walk in the park against NMBA/ MDX, nailing a 105-61 win in the UFO Inter-Orga-

nization Basketball Friendship League 2011 Bud Cup on Tuesday night at the TSL Sports Complex.

The 44-point victory ex-

to three. The Rufino Aguoncoached Namfrel is the lone undefeated squad in the nineteam field, while NMBA absorbed their third loss in four

NMBA/MDX never led in the match, as Proa surged to a quick 8-0 start in the opening quarter. Proa began the game with its powerhouse starting five composed of Quincy Johnson, Pete Iguel, Dan Barcinas, Jack Lizama, and Mike Babautended Proa's unbeaten streak ta. The quintet went on to give

Proa a double-digit lead before sitting out in the last four minutes of the first quarter.

With its second unit finishing the first quarter, Namfrel enjoyed a nine-point lead, 22-13. Aguon's second stringers continued playing in the second quarter and kept the driver's seat, but they couldn't pull away completely. NMBA's Randy Mungcal and Dennis Morales hit several baskets to keep their team afloat in the second period.

Then in the last three and a See NAMFREL on Page 26

Mieko guns for third XTERRA Japan win

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com



Mieko Carey left

morning to defend her XTERRA Japan women's title this weekend.

Carey, who won XTERRA Japan for two straight years (2009 and 2010), will be competing in the 1.2-kilometer swim, 25-km mountain bike race, and 10-km run off-road triathlon event this Saturday in Marunuma, Gunma Prefecture. She maybe the favorite in the women's division, but Carey expects to face a tough challenge from a

"I will race against another Japanese pro. She came here in 2005 and 2006 for XTERRA and placed fourth. She was the top Japanese finisher See MIEKO on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO Mieko Carey, seen here nearing the finish line of the local race last year, left Saipan for Japan XTERRA

